

Korean animal researcher clones human stem cells

SEOUL—“I never destroy any life during my process,” Seoul National University stem cell research laboratory director Woo Suk Hwang recently told *New York Times* correspondent James Brooke.

Woo Suk Hwang on May 20, 2005 announced that he had become the first scientist to successfully clone human stem cells—“a major leap,” wrote Brooke, “toward the dream of growing replacement tissues for conditions like spinal cord injuries, juvenile diabetes, and congenital immune deficiencies.”

Said Woo Suk Hwang, “We use only a vacant [unfertilized] egg, with no genetic materials” from which to form an embryo.

Trained as a veterinarian, Woo Suk Hwang, 52, was raised by a widowed mother who supported six children as a dairy hand.

“I could communicate with cows eye to eye,” Woo Suk Hwang told Brooke.

Woo Suk Hwang is a devout practicing Buddhist, wrote Apoorva Mandavilli in a profile for the journal *Nature Medicine*.

But in conversing with Brooke, Woo



Macaque at the Korea Animal Protection Society shelter in Daegu. (Kim Bartlett)

Suk Hwang appeared to refer only to never destroying any human life. His past achievements have included producing the first cow conceived in South Korea through *in vitro* fer-

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(Robert L. Harrison)

World standards for farm animals

PARIS—“I am delighted to report that the 167-member World Organization for Animal Health in their afternoon session of May 24, 2005 unanimously voted to adopt the first ever global animal welfare standards—an effort that has the potential to benefit literally billions of farm animals,” Youth for Conservation founder Josphat Ngonyo of Kenya e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, moments ahead of a similar note from World Society for the Protection of Animals publicist Jonathan Owen.

“WSPA expects this to be just the start of further guidelines that the World Organization for Animal Health will issue to protect the welfare of farm animals,” Owen agreed.

“This marks a new dawn for the welfare of billions of farm animals around the world. It is now globally recognised at the government level that cruelty to farm animals is unacceptable,” affirmed veterinarian David Wilkins of the International Coalition for Farm Animal Welfare.

“The new standards lay out minimum conditions advised by the chief veterinary officers,” of the member nations, Owen summarized.

“Areas of particular significance include that animals must be able to lie

down comfortably and stand naturally when transported. Painful procedures, including whipping, tail-twisting, use of nose twitches, pressure on eyes, ears or external genitalia, or the use of unsuitable goads or other aids such as sticks with sharp edges, metal piping, fencing wire or heavy leather belts should not be used to move animals,” Owen said. “Drivers transporting animals must be trained in humane handling. When animals are killed for disease control, the methods should result in immediate death

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ANIMAL PEOPLE

News For People Who Care

About Animals

June 2005
Volume XIV, #5



Anti-dog meat & fur movement building momentum in China

HONG KONG—“We are tackling dog and cat eating in China by freely distributing our video *Dr. Eddie: Friend....or Food?* in a pack which includes a pet care leaflet, stickers promoting dogs and cats as friends and helpers, and a letter from Animals Asia Foundation founder Jill Robinson explaining why we believe dogs and cats should not be on the menu,” Animals Asia Foundation executive director Anne Mather e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on May 29, 2005.

“We are happy to say that the response to the pack has been absolutely overwhelming,” Mather continued. “The initial 10,000 packs, which we expected to last a year, were finished in just six weeks! We are receiving calls from pet clubs all over China whose members have heard of the packs and are requesting their own. Thus we are in the midst of producing a further 40,000 for free distribution. In addition, <www.sina.com>, (China’s biggest web portal), is streaming the *Dr. Eddie* film for free on their pet site.”

The *Dr. Eddie* video, also available in an English version, tells the story of a dog whom Robinson rescued from a live meat market in Guangdong a few years ago. Eddie is now part of the Dr. Dog therapy program in Hong Kong, one of many Dr. Dog programs begun by the Animals Asia Foundation in major cities of Southeast Asia to help raise appreciation of dogs wherever they might be on the menu.

After showing Dr. Eddie at work, helping humans, the video offers black-and-white footage of humans violently abusing

dogs and cats throughout the Guangdong market where Robinson bought him.

Background scenes demonstrate that the foreground incidents are not unusual, even with westerners present.

Those who eat dogs and cats—about 10% in southern China, 6% in South Korea, fewer everywhere else—are adamant as ever about continuing. Many older men eat dogs for much the same reason that American and European counterparts might take Viagra. Some older women, especially in South Korea, consume a tonic made from cats who have been boiled alive.

Because Asian politics tend to be oligarchic, dominated by older men, legislation pertaining to dog and cat consumption seems to be going backward.

Beijing in March 2005 began issuing certificates of approval to dog butchers, covering meat hygiene and slaughtering methods.

South Korea appears to be on the verge of repealing an unenforced 1991 ban on selling “disgusting” foods, meaning dog and cat meat, in favor of introducing a similar regulatory regimen.

The political setbacks follow rising affluence that enables dog and cat eaters to eat dogs and cats more often, leading to increased consumption and profitability for dog and cat farmers. In China, where old restrictions on personal mobility have recently been eased or ignored, to attract cheap labor from the countryside, enough dog and cat eaters are swarming into Beijing to support as many as 100

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Rhino mud-bathing at the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust in Kenya. (Kim Bartlett)

South Africa rethinks game ranching

JOHANNESBURG—South African environmental affairs and tourism minister Marthinus Van Schalwyk on May 30, 2005 expanded the scope of an expert panel convened to review common game farming abuses to include all aspects of game farming and hunting.

“It is possible that a partial or full moratorium on any hunting of large predators may be required, and a complete ban on captive breeding of large predators is not excluded from the range of possible policy options,” Van Schalkwyk told Veronica Mohapeloa of *BuaNews* in Tshwane.

“The government is planning a sweeping reform of hunting laws—including a possible moratorium on hunting lions and leopards,” predicted Tony Carnie of the *Cape Times*. “This follows mounting concern about ‘canned’ lion shoots, policy discrepancies among provinces and legal grey areas created by dropping fences between state and private game reserves,” Carnie elaborated. “A panel is also to probe the ownership, management, and impacts of the hunting industry.”

Said Van Schalwyk, “This should lay the basis for the development of a coherent set of norms and standards that can be used to guide the regulation of hunting.”

Van Schalwyk broadened the panel inquiry after an initial meeting earlier in May identified far more threats to “regulated, responsible and sustainable” hunting than he had anticipated, he said.

Television documentaries and the efforts of animal advocates have focused attention on abuses associated with “canned” lion hunts, detailed in *Canned Lion Hunting: A National Disgrace*, by <www.Canned-Lion.com> proprietors Chris Mercer and Beverley Pervan. Formerly the directors of the Kalahari Raptor Centre, Mercer and Pervan are also regular **ANIMAL PEOPLE** book reviewers.

But the “canned lion” issue is only part of the game farming conundrum.

Former agricultural land converted to game farming now occupies three times as much acreage in South Africa as the national park system, observed World of Birds Wildlife Sanctuary operator Walter Mangold, of Hout Bay, in a faxed statement to **ANIMAL PEOPLE**.

“Game farming is just another name for ‘sustainable use,’” Mangold pointed out. “Sustainable exploitation seems to have become the best and perhaps only solution to

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Editorial

Fundraising through accountability

Readers who pre-ordered the seventh annual edition of the **ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on Animal Protection Charities** should have their copies in hand before the June 2005 edition of the **ANIMAL PEOPLE** newspaper goes to press.

The first printing of the 2005 *Watchdog Report* reviewed 125 charities for just \$25, or a mere 20¢ per entry, including complete contact information, the most recent financial statistics for each organization, and summaries of major programs, program-related controversies, policy issues of note, and administrative issues or changes.

Among the 125 animal charities listed are the 83 U.S.-based organizations from which you are most likely to receive solicitations, including environmental charities that deal with wildlife habitat and biodiversity, plus 42 overseas charities whose activities we have either personally inspected or have had inspected by trusted colleagues.

The 2005 *Watchdog Report* will unfortunately be the last to include new observations from longtime contributor Bonny Shah, who died of leukemia in July 2004. Shah helped us verify the particulars of seven charities in India, Latin America, and the U.S., and added perspective to several other entries.

If you did not pre-order the 2005 *Watchdog Report*, use the form on page 18 to get yours now—or place your order through our web site, <www.animalpeoplenews.org>.

Helps charities as well as donors

Fifteen years after **ANIMAL PEOPLE** began producing our annual “Who gets the money?” financial reports on animal charities, featured in each December edition, and seven years after *The Watchdog Report* began supplementing the numbers with further information, savvy animal charity administrators realize that being included helps them as much as it helps donors. If they are achieving program success, raising funds efficiently, and avoiding scandal, *The Watchdog Report* affirms their accomplishments to the most serious donors, who make the largest contributions and are often the most inclined to leave bequests.

If an animal charity doing national solicitation is not in *The Watchdog Report*, it is usually because the mission of the charity is not big enough, in our assessment, to warrant high-profile national fundraising. Non-listing means it is less likely to be on the short list of those that will receive the most carefully considered gifts, as opposed to the usually small spontaneous donations that direct mail campaigns typically seek to elicit.

The Watchdog Report is heavily used by the multi-organization donors who receive the most mailings. *Watchdog Report* readers are just a small percentage of the total animal charity donor base, but because they appear to receive a disproportionately high percentage of “cold solicitations” from charities with which they have no prior relationship, the influence of a *Watchdog Report* review on direct mail returns appears to be significant.

Even if a listed animal charity has major deficiencies, spotlighted by the *Watchdog Report*, in some cases the notice helps to bring the assistance that decision-makers at the charity need to rectify whatever is wrong. About once a year an executive director or board member mentions that a critical review helped to secure approval to make a necessary change.

This is an encouraging shift from the atmosphere when we started, when the prevailing attitude of animal charity administrators tended to be that the less donors knew about their operations, the better. At the time, we were almost the only regular reviewers of animal charity financial filings, which were relatively difficult to get through the Internal Revenue Service, state charities bureaus, and the British Charities Commission. We would typically have to fill out two forms for every current financial filing we received.

Now the easy accessibility of IRS Form 990 filings at <www.GuideStar.org> has produced a plethora of instant online charity analysts, most of whom do not have the ability or interest to do much more than crunch numbers—and many crunch them inaccurately, because the number crunchers fail to verify that the statistics reported on IRS Form 990 cross-check from line to line and section to section in a credible manner.

Neither do most of the other analysts compare IRS Form 990 data with copies of appeals, organizational web sites, and news reports, to verify that the program activity described on IRS Form 990 is actually what each charity is doing, and advertises that it is doing. Program verification is central to the work of **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, not only in compiling the *Watchdog Report* but in reporting the news about animal protection all year long.

The *Watchdog Report* exists, and **ANIMAL PEOPLE** itself exists in part, because people who care enough about animals to make substantial investments in nonprofit animal protection work want to get better information about where their money goes.

This is not just a matter of wanting to ensure that donations are not merely feeding

direct mail mills and enriching overpaid executives, or that charities are fronts for fraud. Certainly these are concerns, but they are only worst case scenarios for experienced donors.

Cold solicitations from high-volume mailers would not have a response rate of less than 1% if most recipients did not already recognize and reject look-alike appeals from charities with similar names, shocking photos and sob stories that have already been used for decades, gimmicks such as coins and souvenir merchandise included with appeal letters, envelopes designed to resemble bills or government documents, and the zillion other ploys that route mailings to the trash, unread.

Serious donors have questions that go beyond their letter-sorting response to the daily onslaught of appeals. In fact, donors tend to have questions similar to those of investors in the stock market, only slightly modified in recognition of the differences in purpose. Both animal charity donors and stock purchasers want to know about prospects for immediate results, longterm prospects, past performance, unique attributes or liabilities of the enterprise, the vision of the leadership, the stability of the management team, the ratios of assets to earnings, and the ratio of investment in promotion to product or service sales.

As with charitable fundraising, either too high or too low an investment in promotion relative to returns tends to suggest eventual failure.

If the charity or corporation is engaged in multiple activities, the donor or investor wants to know which activities are the most productive, which show growth potential, and which are obsolete.

In this regard, the differing responses of animal charities and corporations to such questions tend to demonstrate why corporate executives make more money.

To begin with, a corporation is sales-oriented. The first thing anyone in sales learns is that, “The customer is always right.”

Fortune 500 companies not only routinely and easily disclose the equivalent of all of the same information included on IRS Form 990, but go out of their way to make it accessible and available to potential investors. While they zealously guard their trade secrets, financial performance is typically an open book. A potential investor, business reporter, or even university student who expresses an interest in a Fortune 500 corporation will soon be inundated in quarterly reports that detail the company activity.

Only a handful of the 126 animal charities included in the *Watchdog Report* offer anything of the kind. About 25%—typical of all charities, according to GuideStar—omit essential information from IRS Form 990, or incorrectly report fundraising expenses. Foreign animal charities commit similar omissions in producing the balance sheets that they prepare in lieu of filing a document such as Form 990.

The value of itemization

The most egregious omissions and errors involve attempts to pass off the cost of high-volume, low-yield direct mailings and telephone solicitations as “program” expense, in the name of public education. But this is hardly the only major failure of accountability that we see. Nearly half the financial statements we review fail to itemize program expenditures in any meaningful way.

For example, the Animal Welfare Institute declares on Form 990 that about 75% of AWI program spending in 2004 went to “promote the welfare of all animals and seek to reduce the sum total of pain and fear inflicted on animals by humans.”

Founded in 1952 by the late Christine Stevens, AWI has never been credibly accused of any kind of financial impropriety. This hazy description of program activity is not an attempt to conceal anything—just a typical example of the failure of much of the animal charity universe to recognize the value of accountability as a fundraising device.

The IRS Form 990 filings of the North Shore Animal League contrastingly stood out immediately, from the first we saw, back in 1989. Where the sum of AWI program activity is covered in three terse lines, North Shore annually provides a veritable yearbook. Each major category of program activity is described in terms of expenditure, returns, objectives, accomplishments, and history. Some of the categories are broken down into sub-categories.

The North Shore filings are not glossy, like a corporate prospectus, but they have always been compiled by people who understand that to attract multi-million-dollar support, one must present program information that shows how it will be used.

Thirty-five years ago AWI was the larger organization. There are many reasons why North Shore now has 10 times the annual donor revenue, among which providing better program descriptions on IRS Form 990 almost certainly ranks fairly low.

But North Shore pioneered another use of accountability as a fundraising device that had a more demonstrable outcome. Instead of charging a flat-rate adoption fee, as is traditional, or setting adoption fees according to the anticipated level of adoption demand for each animal, as is increasingly successful these days, North Shore quit charging an adoption fee. Instead, adopters are presented with an itemized list of the costs involved in preparing an animal to be adopted, and are asked for a donation. After that approach was introduced, the typical return per animal rehomed from the North Shore shelter soared to half again what it was when a flat adoption fee was charged.

Then-North Shore operations director Mike Arms now heads the Helen Woodward Animal Center in Rancho Santa Fe, California, and is among the most popular speakers at the Best Friends Animal Society’s No More Homeless Pets conferences. Having supervised programs that have rehomed more than one million animals, Arms has a seemingly endless inventory of techniques to share, but none are more vital to increasing revenue than his discovery that adopters of “free” animals will generously respond to a specific invitation to help with specific line items, at specific amounts.

“Vague appeals bring vague response,” Arms emphasizes. “Be honest and tell the donor that spaying or neutering cost so much, vaccination cost so much, kenneling cost so much, etc. Maybe the donor can’t help you with all of the expense, but usually you will get some of it. Maybe the rest will come later. Give the donor a list, and it will be remembered.”

Hundreds of other animal charities are now using variants of the “itemized list” approach. Many ask donors to check off on a reply coupon a specific amount that will go toward a specific purpose.

So long as the money is verifiably spent for the purpose for which it is raised, itemizing requests can be especially effective in attracting new donors, including in parts of the world where donating to animal charities is a relatively unfamiliar concept.

For example, the Cat Welfare Society of Singapore recently distributed postcards to the Singapore business community, offering attractive photos of cats on one side, with educational single-sentence captions, and on the back, brief mentions of the society’s daily expenses for veterinary care, per cat cost of sterilization and vaccination, and per month costs of keeping a cat in foster care.

Whether the postcards are the right vehicle for bringing in donations remains to be seen, but the message is right. Business people understand contracts. A donation made in response to an itemized request is in effect a miniature contract, obliging the charity to do specific work. If the work is done properly, and is seen to be done, each transaction builds donor confidence, until eventually the itemized request is no longer necessary because the donor becomes willing to accept on faith that the charity is using good judgment and handling money in a responsible manner.



ANIMAL PEOPLE

News for People Who Care About Animals

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Telephone: 360-579-2505.
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Web: www.animalpeoplenews.org

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ANIMAL PEOPLE: News for People Who Care About Animals is published 10 times annually by Animal People, Inc., a nonprofit, charitable corporation dedicated to exposing the existence of cruelty to animals and to informing and educating the public of the need to prevent and eliminate such cruelty.

Subscriptions are \$24.00 per year; \$38.00/two years; \$50/three years.

Executive subscriptions, mailed 1st class, are \$40.00 per year or \$70/two years.

The **ANIMAL PEOPLE Watchdog Report on Animal Protection Charities**, updated annually, is \$25. The current edition reviews 121 leading organizations.

ANIMAL PEOPLE is mailed under Bulk Rate Permit #2 from Clinton, Washington, and Bulk Rate Permit #408, from Everett, Washington.

The base rate for display advertising is \$8.50 per square inch of page space. Please inquire about our substantial multiple insertion discounts.

The editors prefer to receive queries in advance of article submissions; unsolicited manuscripts will be considered for use, but will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope of suitable size. We do not publish fiction or poetry.



Fire when ready by Sybil Erden, founder, The Oasis Sanctuary

The Oasis Sanctuary, in rural south-eastern Arizona, cares for captive exotic birds, mostly parrots. Our eight resident staff look after more than 400 birds, plus 50 other farmed and domestic animals.

At 9:50 p.m. on May 25, 2005 I stepped outside and saw a plume of fire towering over the trees—an orange glow, soundless, mindless, reaching into the heavens. A foreclosed property adjacent to our 72 acres was fully ablaze.

I called 911 to get the fire department before doing anything else, but was told they had already been notified and were on their way. But being “on their way” is a relative term out here in the rural Southwest.

The members of the Cascabel volunteer fire department are individually notified. They have one truck and a water tanker. The other local fire departments are also volunteer. The closest, in St. David, is 45 minutes away. The next closest is an hour away.

After calling 911, I called and probably awakened one of our staff and asked him to call everyone else. Within five minutes everyone went to work.

Neighbors and nearby friends came to help. Eventually firefighters from five companies came to fight the fire and help protect our sanctuary. We were fortunate: the air was humid, with no wind. A dry creek that bisects our property separated us from the fire. The fire trucks came down the dry creek and kept the blaze from jumping to the side of our property where the birds, other animals, homes and buildings are.

Tucson Avian Rescue and Adoption

director Judy Ray and her family and Sherri Brovas, one of TARA’s co-founders, called, woke, and then collected people, and soon a four-vehicle convoy had begun a 90-minute drive to help us move animals.

The fire was so hot and large that even from an eighth of a mile away it felt like standing beside a large bonfire.

Evacuation plans we had already developed were implemented. Birds indoors were captured and crated first, as I feared a power outage if the electrical lines burned. While that was done, cages and carriers were taken out of the storage and arranged near the outdoor aviaries and enclosures.

Neighbors soaked the areas around buildings. I rounded up the cats and dogs. Friends from Forever Home Donkey Rescue, about 12 miles down the road, came with their van and took charge of getting the horses and cattle to safety.

At 1:30 am we were told we could stand down. At least for now the fire was contained and evacuation was no longer imminent. I decided to keep things ready until the fire was completely out. We left the crated birds and other animals in their carriers overnight. Trucks and vans were on standby. Materials for evacuation left where they were. We called the TARA crew on their cell phones and they turned back before arriving, with the understanding that they were available should things become worse.

Tom Trebeski, who is our webmaster as well as a TARA and Oasis volunteer, had no cell phone. He spent the night in our small guest house.

With our friends’ help we could have gotten out with all the birds, stressed and shaken, but alive.

The fire did burn some of our property, but no buildings were damaged. Most of the smoke and ash stayed clear of the birds.

Near dawn I kicked off my shoes and went to bed, fully clothed. I napped until staff who had worked until almost 2 a.m., and one who had not been to sleep yet, showed up for work at 7 am. I told them to go home after feeding and call it a day.

Later that afternoon Oasis associate director T.J. Georgitso and I drove to Benson, 40 minutes away, to pick up supplies. We were supposed to go to Tucson to pick up a bird at the airport at 9:30 p.m., but I did not feel comfortable having both of us away.

We arranged for two volunteers to receive the bird at the airport, and returned to The Oasis at 6:30 to find rising wind fanning the smoking hot spots back up into fires. Thirty-foot hollow trees were burning on the inside, spewing sparks from their tops onto unburned areas of dry grass.

The men got shovels and the water sprayers we use to spray down the birds and set to work, soon joined by neighbors. I called the fire department. Their line was busy. I called 911. When a fire crew came, two hours later, 90% of the fire was out.

We continued to find and hose down hot spots for another day, until at last a rain storm relieved us of duty. Never had we been so happy to be soggy!

Our staff will use this experience to devise an even better, quicker way of handling



this sort of emergency.

There are fire-breaks to create, brush to be cleared. We need to improve the three trailers we had already acquired as evacuation vehicles. We learned that we will need to keep more tools, back-up equipment, and supplies on hand, including bandages for bird bites.

We are now suggesting that each staff member should keep a small duffel bag containing a couple of changes of clothing, a second pair of shoes, and copies of papers that might be important to have in the event of an actual emergency evacuation.

We will not have to rise like the Phoenix from the ashes, but as well-prepared as we thought we were, we learned that we must become better prepared yet.

[The Oasis Sanctuary, 5411 N. Teran Rd., Benson AZ 85602; 520-212-4737; <oasis@theriver.com>; <www.the-oasis.org>.]

LETTERS

Woodpecker

Wow! Your May editorial “Lessons from finding the ivory-billed woodpecker” is phenomenal.

When someone sent me the news about the ‘rediscovered’ bird, I responded with the following rant:

“Conservationists” who endorsed the poisoning of Anacapa, accepting as collateral damage the loss of rare species such as the burrowing owl and the Anacapa deer mouse, may also have wiped out an undiscovered “extinct” species.

We have proof that the National Park Service poisoned a species of bird they didn’t even know was on the island. They also did not do a DNA test on the poor Anacapa Island rat, a uniquely adapted population, genetically isolated for two centuries.

If these bio-crats would simply let compassion for every individual creature be their guide, as opposed to academic interest in the statistically rare ones, we wouldn’t have such destructive (in addition to obscenely cruel) hubris.

Your indepth analysis of the news took the lessons to a very sophisticated level. I remain in awe of your ability to digest and synthesize information.

I forwarded “Lessons...” to Travis Armstrong, editor of the *Santa Barbara News-Press*. He is a very courageous and determined defender



—Wolf Clifton

of the island animals.

Thanks again.

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The cases for and against cat licensing

The Editor responds:

Even 50 years ago, when the Walt Disney animated film Lady & The Tramp offered possibly the first realistic screen depiction of a dog pound, and promoted licensing as the then best hope for preventing shelter killing, Illinois governor Adlai Stephenson had already reviewed and in 1949 vetoed a legislative proposal for cat licensing. Licensing requirements for dogs had already been in effect in parts of the U.S. for even longer than the U.S. had existed, but compliance has rarely exceeded 25%.

Imposing fines for non-compliance has historically depressed reclaims of lost dogs from pounds, rather than encouraging more licensing.

Doing door-to-door canvassing to increase license sales typically costs more in staff time than is recovered in revenue. Relatively few animal control departments even handled cats until recent decades, yet the cost of handling dogs alone usually so far exceeds the income potential from dog license sales that most humane societies bidding on animal control contracts learned long since to ask

for guaranteed revenue, with licensing revenue at most a secondary source of funding.

ANIMAL PEOPLE in a comparison of data from eight representative U.S. cities, published in March 2002, found that there is a demonstrable relationship between licensing compliance and the cost of a license, but no demonstrable relationship between the rates of licensing compliance and the community rates of dog and cat killing per 1,000 human residents. In fact, the highest rate of shelter killing came in the city with the highest rate of licensing compliance.

ANIMAL PEOPLE has reviewed data from many cities whose animal control directors believe their licensing programs are successful, but has found that the claim really seemed to be sustained by the evidence only in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

The Calgary secret of success is that the licensing program is heavily promoted as a low-cost lost pet identification system, not as a revenue generator. (**ANIMAL PEOPLE** profiled the Calgary animal control department in October 2000.)



—Elisabeth Arvin
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National character & compassion

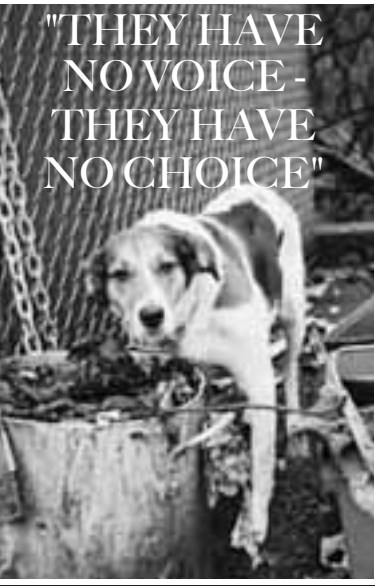
Your April 2005 editorial feature “National character & the quality of compassion” gave a very good overview of the kinds of animal cruelty that exist in both Eastern and Western cultures. Just as informative—but a lot more encouraging—was **ANIMAL PEOPLE**’s report of the results of the MORI polls commissioned by Compassion In World Farming and the International Fund for Animal Welfare, with help from One Voice of France and the Royal SPCA of Great Britain.

It came as a welcome surprise to learn that although people in some developing countries have had the benefit of humane education for only a relatively short period of time, a large majority believes that humans have a moral duty to minimize animal suffering.

As usual, **ANIMAL PEOPLE** has provided information that is not easily available to the general reader. Thanks for your ongoing coverage of important animal rights issues.



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South Africa rethinks game ranching (from page 1)

protect Africa’s wildlife from extinction.”

On paper, at least, “The commercial value of game has long surpassed the value of domestic wildlife,” Mangold continued. “This is considered a tremendous conservation achievement. But all is not well.”

Because game farmers have speculatively bred wildlife like cattle, gambling that the limited market might expand to absorb the supply, “There is now a surplus of 425,000 harvestable game animals per year, of which 25,000 are trophy animals,” explained Mangold. “These 425,000 animals must be culled to ensure continued grazing for the remainder and the annual additions,” unless herd fecundity is abruptly and artificially controlled.

If game farmers do not slow breeding cycles that they have accelerated beyond the longterm carrying capacity of the habitat, “Game numbers will keep rising year after year,” continued Mangold. “The numbers to be culled will grow.”

“The main problem,” in Mangold’s assessment, “is that the demand for venison has not kept step with the need for

nations, African elephants remained plentiful in South Africa and several neighboring states when the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species in 1989 banned transboundary traffic in elephant ivory.

From 6,000 to 12,000 elephants per year are poached in southern Sudan, Congo, the Central African Republic, Kenya, and Chad, according to wildlife traffic researcher Esmond Martin of Nairobi, whose most recent studies were funded by Care For The Wild.

But while the ivory trade ban has never altogether stopped elephant poaching, it has slowed the loss of elephants from much of Africa, including Kenya, where the major problem is the proximity of elephant populations to virtually lawless Sudan and Somalia. The ivory trade ban has also slowed elephant poaching in Asia.

In addition, the ivory trade ban set up the possibility that nations which still have abundant elephants might eventually exploit a lucrative semi-monopoly.

Because ivory keeps in storage indefinitely, South

Gretchen Wyler on zoo elephants

Your May 2005 cover feature “Weaning zoos from elephants” was brilliantly written, and I set the time aside to read it in its entirety. How nice to read dates and places and statistics and know that they are all facts. Wonderfully researched, and I will appreciate it if you will send me 25 copies. It must be shared with all those people who have been so involved in my elephant story here in Los Angeles—a two-and-a-half-year effort focusing on an L.A. Zoo elephant named Ruby and her trials.

I became an activist one snowy day in December 1966. Many people ask me how I’m still fighting, and I say, “My outrage drives me.” Now my passion for captive elephants fuels me. I do believe I will live another 20 years, and I do believe that before I die, there will be no more circus elephants, and that U.S.

Editor’s note:

Transferred to the Knoxville Zoo in May 2003, against strong activist opposition led by Wyler, Ruby was returned to the Los Angeles Zoo in November 2004, after failing to integrate into the Knoxville Zoo herd—as Wyler and others predicted. Both the Elephant Sanctuary at Hohenwald, Tennessee, and the Performing Animal Welfare Society’s Ark 2000 sanctuary in Calaveras, California, have offered Ruby a home.

The likelihood that Ruby will eventually be retired to a sanctuary may have increased with the May 17, 2005 election of new Los Angeles mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. “I have believed for some time that a zoo is not an appropriate place for an animal as large as an elephant,” Villaraigosa reportedly told NBC news during the campaign. “I think we need to move the elephants out.”

I personally would argue that the “complete picture of man’s inhumanity” that Wyler credits ANIMAL PEOPLE with portraying is the perspective from only one side of the window. From the other, each scrap of information we receive, each remedial action undertaken, and each reader we attract provides testimony that far more people oppose cruelty than are knowingly engaged in it. All of history has documented inhumanity. ANIMAL PEOPLE chronicles the humane response.

The American Zoo Association answered “Weaning zoos from elephants” with a fax stating that, “According to opinion poll results, 95%

zoo elephants will have died out.

The time I have spent on captive elephants is almost matched by my caring about the government’s horrific handling of wild horses.

It has been a disappointing and frustrating nearly 40 years, and I can well imagine how you and Kim feel, since you are covering nearly every issue on the globe concerning animals. Bravo! For continuing to care so much, and for presenting such a complete picture of man’s inhumanity, I thank you.

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of U.S. adults agree that seeing elephants and rhinos helps people appreciate them more and encourages people to learn more about them. 93% agree that it is important that a marine life park, aquarium, or zoo be accredited by a national association. 86% of respondents agree that visiting zoos and aquariums encourages people to donate money or time to animal conservation efforts. 96% of respondents agree that it is important that people work to conserve animals such as those found in aquariums and zoos. 95% of respondents agree that many of the successes to save endangered or declining species are at least in part a result of work done in zoos and aquariums.”

While all of this may be true, without in any way denying the positive contributions of zoos, there is still room to question whether zoos as they presently exist are the best way to do their work. Zoos have evolved from entertainment facilities to educational institutions and conservatories, but have resisted accepting a humane mission, which would require them to operate more like sanctuaries. That may nonetheless become their most viable role, as it is by now clear that even the best-managed zoo-based species survival programs have only a minor part in achieving the survival of endangered animals, and rarely can substitute for protected wild habitat.

The appointed rethinkers

National SPCA executive director Marcelle Meredith represents humane concerns on the panel appointed to review South African hunting laws.

The panel is chaired by former environmental affairs director-general Chippy Olver.

Other panelists include Council for Sustainable Industrial Research chair Khungeka Njobe, World Wildlife Fund/SouthAfrica representative Tony Frost, hunter Stewart Dorrington, University of Pretoria Centre for Wildlife Management director Koos Bothma, Holly Dublin of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, Limpopo regional representative Shibu Rampedi, community representative Lambson Maluleke, Food & Allied Workers Union

not the veld that had persisted through previous millennia. Recent elephant damage might be seen as an elephantine effort to restore the habitat.

Representatives of six of the seven nations belonging to the Southern African Development Community met at Victoria Falls during the last week of May 2005 to discuss plans for opening and developing the elephant ivory market, along with ancillary markets for other elephant byproducts. Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe participated. Angola abstained, without public explanation.

Zimbabwean Parks and Wildlife Management Authority director-general Morris Mtsambiwa promoted “the adoption of a serious advocacy and global communication strategy to lobby for increased hunting sectors in all countries,” the Zimbabwean government-controlled *Harare Herald* reported.

“It is in this view that we have stipulated in our strategies what would happen to the hide, skin, ivory and the meat, so that those opposed to the culling of elephants realise the great value of the resource to our people,” Mtsambiwa said. “We are serious about advancing our own values rather than those of the western world,” he added, in a slap at animal advocates—ignoring that the trophy hunting industry is an invention of the western world, and almost entirely depends upon western money.

Immediately after the meeting, Zambian tourism minister Patrick Kalifungwa opened elephant trophy hunting in the Chiawa, Rufunsa, and Lupande regions, where elephant damage to crops has become a politically hot issue. Zambia had already won CITES permission to export up to 40 elephant tusks.

On the same day that Kalifungwa reintroduced elephant hunting to Zambia, Zambian Wildlife Authority public relations manager Maureen Mwape told the *Times of Zambia*

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South Africa rethinks game ranching, but targets more species (from page 6)

that ZAWA had “contracted a private firm to cull about 200 hippos in the Luangwa River as a way of getting rid of old animals.”

Despite Asian demand for hippo tooth ivory, as a substitute for elephant tusk ivory, “We are not cropping the hippos,” Mwape insisted. “We are only culling the hippos as part of our plan to pave way for the new breed”—a regimen which is actually a text-book definition of cropping.

Sharing loot

“Eco-tourism is seasonal and not well developed to benefit the local community. When people are given the licences to kill the elephants, half the money will go to the community,” Kalifungwa promised Chansa Kabwela of the *Lusaka Post*.

If Zambian elephant hunting is managed like Zimbabwean elephant hunting, what this actually means is that half the money will end up in the hands of politically well-connected local strongmen, who will use much of it to reinforce their own authority, in disregard of anything resembling rule by law.

If hunting is managed in Zambia as it is in Tanzania, the national government may soon seek a bigger piece of the action.

“The villagers of Ngarambe,

Scoping elephants & rhinos on the web

MERU—The latest Kenyan venture in wildlife tracking could either help to stop elephant and rhino poaching or accelerate it, depending on the monitoring and interdiction capabilities of the Kenya Wildlife Service.

“Elephants in some national parks are being fitted with SIM card collars that send a text message telling wardens exactly where the elephants are every hour. That information will soon be available over the Internet, and accessible to people who choose to sponsor an animal or make a donation to charity,” London *Independent* correspondent Meera Selva reported on June 5, 2005.

Confirmed Meru National Park senior warden Mark Jenkins, who is introducing the tracking technology, “People can go online and see where ‘their’ elephant is at any

Tanzania, were allowed to sell hunting licences and shoot animals for meat so that they would no longer see wild animals as pests,” BBC correspondent Dan Dickinson reported on April 14. “Selling hunting permits is big business: trophy fees in the 2004 season were \$4,000 for an elephant, \$2,000 for a lion, \$600 for a buffalo.”

Boasted Ngarambe village committee member Salum Njao to Dickinson, “A lot of people are coming from other parts of the district to live here. They see that our villagers have more money and more facilities. Other villages are pleading with us to join the project and asking for help in setting their own up.”

That threatened the government wildlife department revenue base, which comes partly from leasing hunting concessions to private entrepreneurs.

Pressured by the Tanzania Hunting Operators Association, the government of Tanzania recently revoked the right to sell hunting permits from Ngarambe and leased the local franchise to a private company for the next five years.

Rhinos

CITES protected rhinos at the same time as elephants. As of 1989, no nation real-

time of day or night. It should be a very useful tool for fundraising.”

“A similar technology is also being used to track rhinos,” Selva added.

But poachers can access the same web sites—and battery-operated laptops make access from remote locations relatively easy.

Under Jenkins, Meru has been safe from poachers. But Meru was the hardest hit of the major Kenyan wildlife viewing venues during the poaching wars of the 1980s.

Meru at peak was visited by 47,000 tourists per year, but after conservationist George Adamson was killed there in 1989, following several murders and disappearances of visitors, the visitor traffic fell to only 1,500 by 1997, before Jenkins was appointed to restore wildlife to the depleted park.

ly had abundant rhinos, of either the black or white subspecies. Rhinos reproduce much more slowly than elephants, and are also somewhat more easily poached, since they live a relatively solitary existence: one rarely warns others of an approaching threat, or has an opportunity to defend others. The black rhino population had fallen from 65,000 to the verge of extinction in the wild.

Rhinos are recovering, however, where actively protected, and are now increasingly often being delivered into private custody. Though the arrangements are nominally still for conservation purposes, “conservation” can include being shot, for a high price, at least some of which returns to the government.

“As an incentive to create new breeding areas in KwaZulu-Natal, breeding [black rhino] population groups have been offered to approved reserves,” explained Tony Carnie of the *Cape Times* on June 3, 2005. “All the original adult animals will remain the property of KZN Wildlife, but 50% of the progeny will become privately owned.”

KZN Wildlife has custody of about 470 of the present African population of 3,500 black rhinos.

The first black rhinos handed to the private sector under the KZN scheme were sent to the Phinda/Mun-ya-Wana game reserve in 2004. “A second group of 17 to 20 black rhinos will be released soon into the new Zululand Rhino Reserve, southwest of Mkhuze town,” wrote Currie. “The 17,000 hectare reserve is owned by 12 ranchers who agreed to drop their fences to form a breeding haven for an animal whose numbers have plummeted.”

Meanwhile, Currie wrote earlier, for the KwaZulu-Natal *Mercury*, “Hunters are getting ready to shoot five black rhinos—the first time this critically endangered species will have been hunted legally in South Africa in more than three decades. The trophy bulls are likely to fetch at least \$175,000 each, a price which excludes hunting fee mark-ups and accommodation costs.”

Both Namibia and South Africa have CITES permission to authorize the export of up to five black rhino trophies apiece per year.

White rhinos have been legally hunted in KwaZulu-Natal since 1968.

Rhinos in Kenya

About 450 rhinos remain in Kenya, including a purported all-time high count of 65 within Nairobi National Park, now almost surrounded by sprawling suburbs of the national capital. *The Nation*, the leading Kenyan newspaper, is skeptical of the numbers.

“For several years, bi-monthly ground counts done by the Kenya Wildlife Service have not tallied more than 15,” *The Nation* editorialized on May 19, 2005. “Where are the others hiding?

“Visitors to Nairobi National Park during the May Day weekend who expected to enter a peaceable kingdom found themselves instead in a combat zone,” *The Nation* editors wrote. “Aircraft, helicopters, lorries, and a convoy of vehicles pursued the remaining rhinos in one of a series of rhino translocations from the park to remote locations where they have been poached out.”

The first two such sites are owned by leaders of the Laikipia Wildlife Forum, which has fronted a series of recent attempts to undo the 1977 ban on sport hunting in Kenya. The Laikipia Wildlife Forum and other opponents of the hunting ban are backed by USAid, Safari Club International, and the African Wildlife Foundation.

“Ten [rhinos from Nairobi National Park] were moved last June to Mugi Ranch in Laikipia,” *The Nation* recited. “Ten were captured on May Day for Kuki Gallman’s Ol Ari Nyiro Ranch. There is talk of more [rhino captures] planned for export.

“Instead of moving the rhinos,” *The Nation* recommended, Nairobi National Park “should be promoted as a world-famous sanctuary on the doorstep of a major metropolis, where visitors are guaranteed rhino sightings.

“The rhino is a priceless asset in the hands of people who understand business,” *The Nation* continued. “The 20 rhinos caught and delivered at Government expense to Laikipia would be worth \$3.5 million (U.S.) in
(continued on page 8)

Rethinking game ranching (from page 7)

South Africa. By any standard that is serious money.”

The transfer of rhinos to Laikipia caught fire as a political issue after four of the 10 rhinos delivered to Gallman died within days, reportedly from pneumonia, possibly brought on by capture and transport stress.

Zimbabwe

The worst-case scenario for many South African game farmers, most of whom are of Boer or British descent, would be that fast-falling wildlife prices might undermine their ability to avoid losing land to squatters of native African descent, as in Zimbabwe.

Less than five years ago Zimbabwe had the most lucrative game farming and trophy hunting industry in the world. Probably not actually profitable, the Zimbabwean activity was (and is) intensively subsidized by CAMPFIRE, the Communal Areas Management Program for Indigenous Resources, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development since 1989. The program started as a bribe to ensure Zimbabwean compliance with the elephant ivory trafficking ban, and a parallel ban on rhino horn trafficking.

Pushed through Congress in the name of elephant and rhino conservation, CAMPFIRE was actually more a program to conserve private land ownership under a nominally socialist one-party government.

During the past 15 years USAid has pumped more than \$40 million into CAMPFIRE, which has raised about \$2.5 million per year in revenue, mostly from trophy hunts.

CAMPFIRE has also functioned as a slush fund for paying off well-placed members of the Zimbabwe African National Union– Patriotic Front. Called ZANU-PF for short, this is Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe’s military and political support base.

CAMPFIRE served throughout the 1990s as a convenient way to keep Zimbabwe politically aligned with U.S. interests in southern Africa—and, especially, to keep Mugabe from implementing land reforms promised when he took power, which would have transferred to indigenous Africans vast tracts of agricultural land which had been put into game farming by apartheid Rhodesians.

Among the attractions of game farming was that it can be done without hiring large numbers of indigenous African workers, who would normally live on or near a plantation producing food or export crops.

As U.S. President George W. Bush moved into the White House in 2001, CAMPFIRE was extolled by the Competitive Enterprise Institute and the subsidiary Center for Private Conservation as a model for wildlife management worldwide. Both institutions, and Safari Club International, have deep influence throughout the Bush administration and

Evictions to clear a park in Ethiopia

While land invasions and their aftermath destroy the remnants of wildlife protection in Zimbabwe, the African Parks Foundation has reportedly introduced to Ethiopia the heavy-handed relocation of longtime land occupants in the name of conservation that helped to create the pressures leading to the Zimbabwean debacle.

“Ethiopia wants a Kenyan-style network of wildlife parks to serve a Kenyan-style tourist industry,” columnist Fred Pearce charged in the April 16, 2005 edition of *New Scientist*. “Following the model of Kenya, the country’s leaders have been throwing the locals out of the park to achieve the ultimate safari experience for western visitors: wildlife without people.”

The African Parks Foundation, summarized Pearce, “was set up by a leading Dutch industrialist, Paul van Vlissingen. It offers to take over moribund parks from African governments, find international funding to spruce them up, and then get the tourists rolling in. It is building a portfolio of parks across Africa,” including in Malawi and Zambia as well as Ethiopia, but will not invest in parks that are jeopardized by human encroachment.

Therefore, Pearce wrote, “In the weeks before the handover of [Nechisar National Park] in February 2005 to the African Parks Foundation,” mostly late in 2004, “some 5,000 people from the Kore tribe were escorted from their thatched huts in Nechisar and dumped onto distant land owned by other rural communities. No compensation, no nothing. The Guji-Oromo tribe and their 20,000 cattle are also being targeted,” Pearce charged. “In January there were reports of huts being burnt. To

Republican majorities in the U.S. House and Senate.

But the CAMPFIRE system was already collapsing. As corruption sapped the Zimbabwean economy, the Mugabe regime kept power by allowing landless supporters to forcibly occupy game farms, and other rural properties. The former SAVE Valley Conservancy, a major CAMPFIRE beneficiary, was among the first casualties.

Agricultural production plummeted, food shortages worsened, ZANU-PF began using relief supplies as a further weapon to remain in charge. Tourists and trophy hunters mostly stopped coming.

The Mugabe regime appears to have given up on any hope it might have had of rebuilding tourism.

“Zimbabwe’s national parks have been ordered to work with rural district councils to begin the wholesale slaughter of big game,” London *Independent* Johannesburg correspondent Basildon Peta reported on April 28, 2005. “National park rangers said they had already shot 10 elephants in the past week. The meat was barbecued at festivities to mark 25 years of independence. Four of the animals were reportedly shot in view of tourists near Lake Kariba, the largest man-made lake in Africa and a major wildlife haven.

“A giraffe was also killed to feed peasants in the Binga area during the festivities,” Basildon Peta added, “but the meat disappeared. It is believed that police and army officials took the meat for themselves.”

On May 3, 2005 the Zimbabe Parks & Wildlife Authority through the *Harare Herald* solicited bids for the purchase of elephants.

“State radio said the elephants are not for export but for wildlife farming,” the *Cape Times* reported. “A parks official said it aimed to encourage the black recipients of 5,000 former white-owned farms ‘to venture into wildlife production.’”

Zimbabwe currently claims 80,000 to 100,000 elephants, with a wildlife reserve carrying capacity of 45,000, but the official data is widely considered suspect.

—M.C.

hunting faction in Kenya. He described as efforts to “reform” Kenyan wildlife management the repeated attempts of the Laikipia Wildlife Forum *et al* to repeal the Kenyan hunting ban.

Pearce also vigorously denounced “animal rights activists and some conservationists, who claim [repeal of the Kenyan hunting ban] would usher in ‘the return of the great white hunter.’”

Regardless of the merits and accuracy of the Pearce argument, however, if there is a perception among the Kore people that they have been unjustly dispossessed to make way for wildlife, Nechisar National Park and the animals in it will be at constant risk from poaching, renewed encroachment, and political opposition, for as long as the displacemnt is remembered and resented.

The “model of Kenya” that Pearce mentioned was pioneered by the creation of Kruger National Park in South Africa, beginning in 1898. Many other nations have cleared humans from vast tracts in the name of conservation, while Tsavo National Park, the largest in Kenya, was sparsely populated desert before being made a reserve in 1949. Conservation appeared to be the only viable use for most of Tsavo.

But Nechisar is near northern Kenya, and Kenya has often evicted herding nomads from nearby national parks, after surrounding land was grazed bare during droughts.

Pearce made plain his philosophical alliance with the pro-



Pride of lions in Kenya. (Elissa Free)

Land reform threatens Hato Piñero

Owners of private wildlife conservancies worldwide told themselves after the destruction of the SAVE Valley Conservancy that the Zimbabwean land invasions were a phenomenon unique to Zimbabwean socio-political circumstances.

That belief was shaken when the Venezuelan National Land Institute ruled on March 12, 2005 that the 80,000-hectare Hato Piñero ecotourism refuge and beef ranch is eligible for seizure under a 2001 law allowing redistribution of private land which is either under-utilized or held under dubious title. Hato Piñero may be expropriated even though the Branger family, operating Hato Piñero since 1951, claims to hold deeds to a title established in 1794.

Like Robert Mugabe, Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez rose to power on the promise of land reform. Like Mugabe, Chavez is bitterly opposed by large private landowners. But unlike Mugabe,

Chavez is disfavored by the George W. Bush administration, which backed a failed 2002 coup.

The major private landholders in Venezuela are oil firms and beef ranchers. Taking land from either the oil firms or the beef ranchers is politically risky.

Hato Piñero, which has 11,000 beef cattle but is mostly not used for agriculture, may be the easiest takeover target despite the prominent role of the refuge in protecting habitat for species including jaguars, anacondas, caymans, Capuchin monkeys, and capybaras.

While the Branger family seeks support for resisting confiscation from multinational conservation foundations, “A government order to halt an irrigation system on the property is driving away wild animals to areas where they could fall prey to hunters,” *Malaysia Star* correspondents Pascal Fletcher and Patricia Markey recently wrote.

Violence vs. animal law enforcement

NAIROBI—Nairobi police fired teargas to disperse demonstrators on May 18, 2005, and Masai leader Ben Koisaba threatened to “mobilize Masai to invade Delamere ranches in Nakuru to press for the re-arrest and prosecution” of Tom Gilbert Patrick Cholmondeley, 37, a day after Philip Murgor, Kenya Director of Public Prosecution, dropped a murder charge filed against Cholmondeley on April 28 for killing Kenya Wildlife Service ranger Samson ole Sisina with one of a volley of five shots fired on April 19.

Cholmondeley, an honorary KWS game ranger himself, claimed Sisina shot first, and said he had mistaken Sisina for a bandit, as Sisina led an undercover KWS raid on an illegal wildlife slaughterhouse at one of the Cholmondeley family ranches. Cholmon-

deley remained under investigation in connection with the slaughterhouse.

Cholmondeley’s grandfather Hugh Cholmondeley, the third Baron Delamere, visited Kenya to hunt in 1895, decided to emigrate from Britain to raise cattle, and established the family land and livestock empire that Tom Cholmondeley now directs.

The Sisina slaying followed the late March murder of a Swaziland ranger identified only as Mandla.

“Poachers encountered by the off-duty ranger from the Hlane Royal Game Park were filling their truck with dozens of carcasses of impala, warthog and other animals shot at a remote part of the park,” wrote James Hall of the Inter Press Service. “They shot the ranger also, whose body lay undetected for

France, Scotland, Canada weigh new legislation

French Justice Minister Dominique Perben in early May 2005 recommended that the national civil code, drafted by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1804, be updated to recognize animals as “living and sentient beings,” Agence France-Presse reported. Animals have long been protected from abuse under the French criminal code, but only by extension of their property status.

The Scottish Executive on May 16 introduced a bill to prohibit awarding live animals as prizes, and to raise the minimum age

for buying a pet from 12 to 16. “The bill also contains provisions to help protect against diseases such as hoof-and-mouth,” and “incorporates tough measures to combat animal cruelty,” wrote Alan McEwen of *The Scotsman*.

Canadian Justice Minister Irwin Cotler in mid-May introduced the fifth attempt, by a series of governments, to update the federal anti-cruelty code. The new draft bill reportedly includes broad exemptions for traditional hunting and fishing practices, including seal-clubbing.

two days until other park workers happened across him. National political figures kept quiet about the killing, but Big Game Parks,” the agency that runs the Swaziland wildlife reserves, “posted a large reward for information leading to the killers’ capture.”

South African National SPCA inspector Roland Fivaz encountered threats of violence on May 31 while trying to arrest four male students at the Edgewood campus of the University of KwaZulu-Natal for allegedly killing a cat in a microwave oven two weeks earlier. The arrests “were prevented by a mob of students who protested against the arrest of their peers. Fivaz was forced to leave,” wrote Bhavna Sookha of the Durban *Daily News*.

Fivaz said witnesses had received death threats, and that he received a telephoned death threat that evening.

“The case will now be handed over to the police, who will follow up on the information I have received,” Fivaz told Sookha.

Addressing a comparable case of menacing an animal law enforcement officer, Palm Beach Circuit Judge Jack Cook on May 27 sentenced Chu Luu Linville, 57, of Loxahatchee, Florida, to serve 50 months in prison followed by 10 years on probation.

“Linville was convicted in March of solicitation to commit first-degree murder,” explained *Palm Beach Post* staff writer Larry Keller. “A jury concluded that she tried to hire

an undercover sheriff’s deputy to kill animal care and control officer Tammie Crawford in October 2003. Linville even drew a map showing the canal where she wanted Crawford’s body dumped so it would be eaten by alligators. “Linville has a long history of skirmishes with animal care and control officers, including Crawford,” wrote Keller, “who have cited her numerous times for animal neglect and for letting animals run loose.”



Good old boys
ran Virginia
wildlife dept.

RICHMOND—The Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries board of directors on May 24, 2005 fired William L. Woodfin, the department chief since 1994.

Board chair Dan Hoffler resigned in March. Both departures came in response to an investigation by Virginia state auditor Merritt Cogswell, whose 52-page report “described an agency rife with free-spending top officials and cronyism,” wrote Louis Hansen and Lee Tolliver of the *Virginian-Pilot*.

“In painstaking detail,” Hansen and Tolliver reported, “the audit substantiated 24 of 29 specific allegations brought against the agency by whistle-blowers.”

Among other abuses, Hoffler allegedly used 131 hours of staff time worth \$4,200 to have video of his 2003 hunting safari to Africa edited into a DVD. Hoffler paid \$500 for the work.

Woodfin and two senior game wardens used \$11,500 in state funds on equipment used to accompany Hoffler to Africa. Hoffler paid most of their other expenses.

“The auditor found many unnecessary purchases labeled for ‘field testing,’” Hansen and Toliver wrote. “For example,” three senior game wardens “spent \$5,200 to purchase 42 knives in a nine-month period, supposedly to determine which knife was best for game wardens.”

Retired State Police Superintendent Col. W. Gerald Massengill was appointed acting director of the department, with a mandate to further investigate the many alleged improprieties.





The Watchdog

The Watchdog monitors fundraising, spending, and political activity in the name of animal and habitat protection—both pro and con. His empty bowl stands for all the bowls left empty when some take more than they need.

SNAP fires founder Sean Hawkins for trying to fix homeless Navajo dogs

HOUSTON—“The Spay/Neuter Assistance Program board of directors voted this evening to terminate my employment,” SNAP founder Sean Hawkins e-mailed to **ANIMAL PEOPLE** at 1:33 a.m. on May 26.

The surprise firing, which came several hours earlier, after a SNAP fundraising luncheon, decapitated the largest hands-on dog and cat sterilization program in the world.

Founded in 1994 as a program of the Fund for Animals, independent since 2000, SNAP has performed subsidized neutering for the City of Houston since 1996.

SNAP operates similar sterilization projects in San Antonio, Los Angeles, and Albuquerque; Monterrey, Mexico, where 12,807 animals were treated in 2004; and on Native American reservations in Colorado, Arizona, Utah, and New Mexico.

In all, SNAP sterilizes about 50,000 dogs and cats per year.

SNAP has also run a sterilization clinic in Dallas and a mobile clinic in Virginia, both eventually turned over to local organizations, and is a global leader in introducing the use of the chemosterilant drug Neutersol to dog sterilization programs.

Hawkins envisioned SNAP as a Houston shelter volunteer in his early teens, and brought it into being while still in his mid-twenties. Sterilizing dogs and cats has always been the SNAP focal mission, but Hawkins participated in the 1985 campaign that influenced Houston to quit killing homeless animals by decompression, and through SNAP has continued efforts against use of cruel killing methods by animal control agencies—especially in Mexico.

“In one month,” Hawkins e-mailed in March 2005, “SNAP gathered 11,819 signed pledges opposing the electrocution and drowning of dogs and cats in Mexico. 11,819 animal advocates are now informed of the horrible conditions in Mexico’s *anti-rabicos*,” as the Mexican rabies control pounds are called. “SNAP manager of international training Doug Fakkema reports that the city of Juarez has stopped using electrocution as a result of our

training. A representative from Chihuahua has expressed a desire to end electrocution throughout the state.”

What went wrong?

“I learned the hard way,” Hawkins told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, “to never give up control of your organization. After 12 years, the leadership of the SNAP board of directors changed. The two new people stepping into the presidency and vice-presidency, both from Halliburton,” the Houston-based oil field management firm, “with zero animal protection board experience, went on a total power and control trip,” Hawkins charged.

“Halliburton facilities were used for meetings, Halliburton lawyers were used for legal guidance, and Halliburton dangled big bucks in front of the organization,” Hawkins added. “The issue that started the division among the SNAP board was the board president ordering me to halt the Navajo Nation community animal sterilization program,

despite the desires of our funders.”

Elaborated Hawkins in an open letter to supporters, “Holly O’Dell, SNAP co-founder, stepped down in late 2004 as SNAP board president. Kathy Davis stepped down as vice president. Their decisions were amicable and unrelated to the current issues. Two individuals new to SNAP, Norman Ritchie, an independent contractor for Halliburton, and Michele Mastrean, senior director of human resources at Halliburton, volunteered and were elected to the positions of SNAP board president and vice-president.”

Dogs vs. sheep

The terminal split developed, said Hawkins, after SNAP in December 2004 “solicited and received funds for purposes that specifically included sterilizing unowned community animals living on the Navajo Nation,” which kills 136 dogs and cats per 1,000 human residents, the highest known rate of killing of any animal control jurisdiction in the U.S. and approximately nine times the U.S. average.

“At a March 12, 2005 board meeting, Glenda Davis, a SNAP board member who is also employed by the Navajo Nation, misrepresented to the SNAP board that SNAP was conducting illegal activities on the Navajo Nation,” Hawkins continued.

Specifically, a well-placed second source told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, SNAP was sterilizing, vaccinating, and releasing unlicensed dogs and cats, in violation of a bylaw which the source said had, to her knowledge, been published only in the Navajo language.

“Without any investigation of the claims raised by Davis, Ritchie directed me to notify staff and funders of his unilateral directive to halt services to Navaho Nation community animals,” Hawkins continued.

“The Summerlee Foundation, PETs-MART Charities, and the Pegasus Foundation each sent letters to the SNAP board, opposing Ritchie’s directive. The Pegasus Foundation put the board on notice that it intended to seek return of funds” not used to fulfill the funded project, Hawkins said. “Subsequently, the

Summerlee Foundation demanded removal of its mobile clinic from the Navajo Nation. Now that SNAP sterilization services on the Navajo Nation have halted, the Navajo Nation has resumed shooting all the dogs it can catch.”

ANIMAL PEOPLE obtained copies of correspondence that affirmed Hawkins’ summary. Several sources agreed that actions by Glenda Davis precipitated the split.

Lango Deen profiled Davis for the magazine *Black Engineer* in December 2004, focusing on her pursuit of an MBA through the University of Phoenix online program.

“Davis is Navajo, of the Water’s Edge Clan, raised on the reservation,” Deen wrote. “She returned to help her people after graduating as a microbiologist from Colorado State University in 1991, and for the past 15 years has worked with a veterinary program offering low-cost comprehensive services to the Navajo. She has been program manager since 1997, overseeing four clinics spread

strategically throughout the nation.”

Said Hawkins, “Davis is director of the Navajo Nation Veterinary & Livestock Program. The NNVLP operates competitive veterinary clinics on the Navajo Nation that provide sterilization services for some dogs and cats.”

A more significant conflict of interest than competition between the NNVLP and SNAP for clients and grant support may be that the NNVLP, in serving sheep herders, serves a constituency which opposes the presence of free-roaming dogs on the Navajo Nation—whether or not they are sterilized and vaccinated.

“Davis, in her capacity as a SNAP board member,” Hawkins said, “has been allowed and encouraged by the SNAP board president to represent SNAP in negotiations, and to direct animal sterilization services provided by SNAP on the Navajo Nation.”

However, Hawkins added, “Davis has remained silent on the issue of the Navajo Nation conducting inhumane animal roundups and killings. Her positions and beliefs, in not opposing rounding up and shooting community animals, directly contradict the purpose and mission of any animal protection organization, including SNAP.”

But “SNAP board president Norman Ritchie stated that ‘complete buy-in from Glenda’ must be obtained for SNAP program services to go forward on the Navajo Nation,” Hawkins alleged.

“While the vote was divided,” Hawkins said, “those who voted to terminate me were Norman Ritchie, Glenda Davis, Michele Mastrean, Pam Harris, Roger Sherman, Lynn Cortina, and Julie Strother.”

Houston Chronicle reporter Salath-eia Bryant hinted on May 26 that the 7-4 board vote to fire Hawkins might not have been final.

“Several board members, including board president Norman Ritchie, said the organization’s bylaws require a two-thirds majority—eight votes—to oust Hawkins,” Bryant wrote. “But Hawkins vows he won’t come back until the board leadership is gone.”

Hawkins said in his open letter that eight major funding sources had suspended support of SNAP “so long as the current board leadership remains in place,” including the Summerlee Foundation, Bosak & Kruger Foundation, Kaplan Foundation, Pegasus Foundation, PETsMART Charities, and the sponsors of the SNAP Annual Gala, SNAP Golf Tournament, and SNAP participation in the Bayou City Art Festivals.

Their cumulative contribution of \$1,745,000 amounted to most of the estimated 55% of the SNAP budget that does not come from subsidized sterilization fees.

The board responded on June 6, with a form letter signed only by “The SNAP board of directors.”

Said the form letter, “In exercising our fiduciary responsibilities, the board must take into consideration not just the public image of SNAP, but also the management of the organization. It was concerns in this area that prompted a majority of the board to vote as they did at our recent meeting...Sean

Hawkins remains the CEO of SNAP. It is our intention going forward that our programs continue as usual, subject of course to the funding constraints we always operate under.”

The form letter sounded as if nothing had changed.

Explained Hawkins, “The board terms for the four members who voted against firing me, Holly O’Dell, Kathy Davis, Robert Castle, and Cindy Barnard, all expire on June 30, 2005. At the annual meeting in July, only the seven board members who voted to fire me will remain.

“In effect, they have already won,” Hawkins said. “They have no reason to communicate with anyone, except to formalize their resolution to fire me, now with unanimous consent of the board, in July. Our only hope is to force the resignation of the seven through public pressure.” —M.C.

Black Wolf Rescue conviction

Black Wolf Rescue founder Robert Clifton Artois, 56, of Triangle, Virginia, was convicted on June 1, 2005 of neglecting the 11 wolf hybrids and 18 other dogs who were removed from his premises by animal control officers on April 18. Volunteer caretaker **Cheryl Grenier** discovered and reported the conditions, including a dead dog, after Artois was jailed in Alexandria on April 13 and called from jail to ask her to feed and water the animals. Artois had already been warned to improve his care regimen in October 2004, and was charged with one count of neglect in November 2004. In December 2004, **Prince William General District Court Judge Peter W. Steketee** continued the original neglect case until June 2005, and ordered animal control officers to inspect Black Wolf Rescue weekly. Artois allegedly then refused to allow animal control personnel to enter his property.

Founded circa 1992, Black Wolf Rescue raised funds through a web site. Artois was convicted of felony larceny in 1983, and was convicted of contributing to the delinquency of minors in 1997 and 2003, according to **Maria Hegsted** of the *Potomac News*. The 2003 case involved a 15-year-old boy whom Artois met via the Internet. Artois was in a sex offender treatment program, Hegsted indicated, and may be facing fraud charges for falsely claiming on his web site that Black Wolf Rescue has IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit status.

BEARCAT Hollow conviction

U.S. District Judge Ann Mont-gomery, of Minneapolis, on June 2, 2005 sentenced former **BEARCAT Hollow** wildlife park owner **Nancy Kraft**, 63, to serve 15 months in prison followed by two years of supervised release and 100 hours of community service. Kraft was convicted by a jury on March 24, 2005 of seven felony counts of falsifying documents and conspiracy, in connection with illegal sales of \$200,000 worth of animals reportedly including leopards, lions, tigers, and grizzly bears.

The animals went to “other breeders, dealers, and even a taxidermist,” wrote **Shannon Prather** of Pioneer Press.

Kraft’s husband, **Kenneth Kraft**, 67, pleaded guilty to similar charges, as did two other defendants. The case originally involved 55 counts filed against nine individuals, but Montgomery dismissed 25 counts before the trial began, and acquitted defendants **Marcus Cook**, of Texas, and **Craig Perry**, of Montana.

Opened in 2000, housing up to 300 animals at a time, BEARCAT Hollow claimed to be a nonprofit wildlife sanctuary, but charged an admission fee of \$10, operating more like a roadside zoo. The Krafts and BEARCAT Hollow came under investigation after a 400-pound Siberian tiger in July 2001 injured visitor **Emily Hartman**, 7, of Rochester, Minnesota. “The 2001 attack was just the start of troubles at BEARCAT

Hollow,” wrote *Pioneer Press* reporter Prather. “In December 2001, a 10-month-old bear escaped and damaged a neighbor’s porch. In 2003, paperwork showed that a man who was mauled by a tiger he raised in his New York apartment had obtained the cat from the Krafts. BEARCAT Hollow at peak kept about 300 animals on 25 acres. It reportedly closed in 2004. In May 2005 the Krafts reportedly obtained permits to relocate about 30 animals, including lions, tigers, and bears, to a private wildlife sanctuary in Spearfish, South Dakota.

Patty’s Angels conviction

Patricia Aline Abezis, 51, founder of the **Patty’s Angels** no-kill sanctuary in the Town of Rochester, New York [*not to be confused with the city of Rochester*] was on April 29, 2005 convicted of 38 misdemeanor counts of neglect, at her third jury trial since the charges were filed following a November 2002 raid by Ulster County sheriff’s deputies.

The raid found 92 dogs, 24 cats, and numerous rabbits and hens without food or water, amid conditions of filth, investigators testified. Thirty animals were turned over to the **Ulster County SPCA**, but Abezis kept more than 100 others. Her assistant, Tracey Ann Pennington, 47, was convicted of six counts of neglect. Charges against caretaker Michael Sickler were dropped. The two previous trials ended as mistrials, once because of a change in the defense council, and once due to loss on jurors.



Anti-dog meat & fur movement builds momentum in China *(from page 1)*

mostly newly started restaurants that serve dogs and/or cats (among about 14,000 restaurants in total).

But among signs of a countervailing trend, the China Animal Agriculture Association’s National Kennel Club announced in February 2005 that there are now more than 150 million pet dogs in China, two and a half times as many as in the U.S., for a ratio of one pet dog per nine humans, similar to the ratios of dogs to humans in France and Britain.

The U.S. and Costa Rica are the two nations with the most dogs relative to humans, at ratios of about one dog per five humans. India, with about one dog per 10 humans, is at the upper end of the scale among nations where dogs mostly roam without individual keepers.

The Chinese pet industry is now worth about \$60 million per year, the CAAA National Kennel Club told the Xinhua News Agency—and is growing fast enough to increase twelve-fold within the next three years, with projected potential to level off at about \$18 billion per year.

The U.S. pet industry has revenues of about \$30 billion per year. The British pet industry is second biggest, worldwide, at about \$6 billion per year. Animal charities in the U.S. and Britain annually raise in donations a sum equivalent to about a 15th of the income of the pet industry.

If the same ratio could be achieved in China, Chinese animal-related nonprofit fundraising potential would be approximately \$4 million a year now and up to \$1.2 billion a year within the foreseeable future. That would be about as much, adjusting for inflation, as the U.S. animal protection sector raised as recently as the early 1990s.

Already Chinese animal defenders are able to show clout, even without big groups to represent them. The Beijing Travel Channel found that out after broadcasting a program on May 4 in which a white cat was thrown from a four-story building to see how cats adjust their bodies to survive hard falls.

The cat lived without known serious injury, but the Travel Channel was besieged, the *Beijing Times* and Agence France-Presse reported, as “Angry pet lovers posted petitions on several websites and lodged complaints with the state broadcasting authorities and the television channel.”

By May 13 the Travel Channel had apologized and pledged that such an experiment would never again be performed or broadcast.

Live skinning expose

An even more significant hint that animal advocates are gaining recognition and favor came on April 5, 2005, when the *Beijing News* published an extensive investigative report following up on allegations that tanuki (raccoon dogs) and foxes are routinely skinned alive by fur traders at the Shangcun Market in Hebei province. The market reputedly handles about 60% of the Chinese fur trade.

The claims about live skinning were originally issued on February 2 at press conferences convened by Swiss Animal Protection, the Environment & Animal Society of Taiwan, and Care For The Wild, of Britain. Videotape provided to news media certainly appeared to show live skinning, but why the animals were skinned alive was unclear, since the technique would tend to produce damaged pelts, of lower sale value than if the animals were killed first.

The *Beijing News* might have been expected to refute the foreign allegations. Instead, photographer Chen Jie and reporter Wu Xuejan unflinchingly affirmed them, adding critical coverage of the conditions under which the tanuki and foxes are raised.

British fur seller quits

LONDON—“Selfridges has reviewed its policy on fur and will no longer be selling any fur products,” the upscale department store chain announced in mid-May 2005.

“Selfridges closed its fur department in 1990 but continued to sell items such as rabbit fur-trimmed gloves and clothes,” wrote social affairs correspondent Maxine Frith of *The Independent*.

The strategy of claiming to sell only fur produced as a byproduct of the meat industry worked for 15 years, until awareness spread that much “rabbit fur” coming into Europe from China might actually be dog or cat fur.

Selfridges, with stores in London, Glasgow, Birmingham, and Manchester, was among the last major British retailers to sell fur goods.

“Suning County,” where the Shangcun Market is located, “has 152 sizable fur farms, 65 villages specializing in fur production, with around 10,000 farmers owning a total stock of 470,000 tanuki, foxes, mink, and other rare and valuable animals,” the *Beijing News* reported.

The *Beijing News* learned that raising tanuki and other species for fur is a recent development, building on the villagers’ discovery of buyers for pelts as well as meat from tanuki, who are a raccoon-like member of the dog family. Killing dogs in the most painful possible way prevails, in order to suffuse their flesh with adrenalin, craved by dog-eaters.

“On 21 March 2005, this reporter learned from the Suning County Party Committee’s propaganda department that, on hearing the foreign reports, the local government immediately organised an investigation of the market,” Wu Xuejan wrote.

“An official at the county’s livestock and aquatic products bureau said that live skinning took place seven or eight years ago, and could not happen now,” even though Chen Jie and Wu Xuejan had just seen and photographed the whole process.

“At present China has no national animal welfare legislation,” Wu Xuejan continued. “Only the China Wildlife Protection Law and the Regulations on the Licensing of the Rearing and Breeding of Protected Wildlife of National Importance contain some sections covering the management of wildlife breeding.

“According to the [local] Regulations on Fox Slaughter, Skinning and Initial Processing, passed on September 1, 2003 by Cangzhou city [also in Hebei province], approved methods for killing foxes include injection of drugs, intercardiac injection of air, and electrocution,” Wu Xuejan added. “A Suning county livestock official says that these standards could be applied to raccoon dogs and other animals.”

A Shangcun Market managing committee member admitted that “Hebei’s level of development is far behind that of developed countries,” Wu Xuejan concluded.

Checking on dogs in Korea

In South Korea, the mobile telephone company KTF Corporation on May 12 introduced a fee-based service for pet keepers who want to check up on dogs left at home.

“The users must first connect to the Internet with their cell phones,” Associated Press reported, “and then register information about their dogs such as breed and age. The service will record the dog’s bark. The owner will receive text messages telling them how their pet is feeling, such as ‘I am happy’ or ‘I am frustrated.’ The service will also translate basic messages into dog sounds.”

The service may be most useful for gathering information to help merchandisers seeking markets.

How far is the distance from citizens calling home to check on their dogs to abolishing the dog meat trade?

An analogous situation would be the continuing participation of about 6% of American men in sport hunting, with hunters holding the White House and hugely disproportionate numbers of seats in most U.S. legislative bodies.

Hunting persists in the U.S., and dog and cat eating in Korea, because opponents are not nearly as well mobilized as defenders of the traditional practices.

Meanwhile, Daegu residents were reportedly irate after a burglar on May 4 blinded the right eye of one Maltese dog he met in an apartment he was robbing, and broke several ribs of another. The case was publicized by the Daegu-based Korea Animal Protection Society and the *Joongang Daily*.

Dog thief lynched

In Thailand, where the Buddhist majority have long been at odds with dog-eating Vietnamese refugees of ethnic Chinese descent, who arrived during the 1970s, unidentified employees of the Wat Don Chan temple at Chiang Mai are suspected of stealing, killing, and eating at least six dogs who have been looked after since late 2004 by Lanna Dog Rescue.

“We found three of [the dogs] dead around a fire, along with paws and organs stuck on sticks and left over the ashes. These dogs were clearly killed to be eaten,” Lanna Dog Rescue volunteer Karin Hawelka told Cindy Tilney, who reported about the incidents for the Bangkok *Nation*.

“We also found the head and skin of one of the dogs buried beneath the earth,” Hawelka added.

Cambodians fed up with similar incidents on May 5 simply lynched notorious local dog thief Bun Rin, 35.

Around Prey Kabbas in the southern Takeo district, Bun Rin “stole chickens, pigs, and dogs, dogs in particular, day and night. His neighbours lost patience and a mob beat him to death,” police chief Chum Chhoeun told *Deutsche Presse-Agentur*.

“Before this happened, we arrested him at least 10 times and educated him not to do like this,” Chum Chhoeun said, “but the charges were too small to hold him,” as Cambodia has no humane law, “and as soon as he was out, he would start again. Even after he split from his wife, who sells dog meat, he continued and just sold the dogs to others.

“Even his parents were tired of him,” Chum Chhoeun added. “He stole dogs not to be rich, but for money to buy drink and to feed lady friends.”

Chum Chhoeun did not expect to arrest any of the mob who killed Bun Rin. He said there were too many participants for the police to identify any. —Merritt Clifton

New Jersey SPCA to appeal verdict limiting autonomy

TRENTON—New Jersey SPCA spokesperson Matt Stanton has indicated that the NJ/SPCA will appeal to the state Supreme Court an April 14, 2005 ruling by the New Jersey Court of Appeals that significantly erodes NJ/SPCA authority.

Although the NJ/SPCA was created by state law in 1868 as an autonomous police force, able to pursue animal abuse cases without county oversight, the justices held that it lost that autonomy under the Criminal Justice Act of 1970, which consolidated all police activities under the authority of the state attorney general and county prosecutors.

“The ruling leaves the NJ/SPCA as the lead agency in

investigating animal abuse,” wrote Brian T. Murray of the *Newark Star-Ledger*, “but it gives each county prosecutor the authority to oversee and guide procedures and policies.”

As of May 2001, the New Jersey SPCA had 18 chartered chapters, at least on paper, each with constabulary law enforcement authority. A review of alleged abuses conducted by the New Jersey State Commission of Investigation found, however, that “The SPCAs at both the statewide and county level have been subverted to the point where in many instances they are incapable of fulfilling their primary statutory mission—the effective and reliable enforcement of ani-

mal cruelty laws.

“The issue is no longer whether or how to fix this errant group of self-appointed, self-directed and uncontrolled entities,” the Commission of Investigation concluded, “but whether to eliminate the archaic system entirely.”

A state Animal Welfare Task Force appointed in February 2003 by former Governor James E. McGreevey recommended removing the SPCAs from the lead role in humane law enforcement.

Striving to recover credibility, the New Jersey SPCA itself in June 2004 revoked the charters of four purportedly dysfunctional chapters.

ACTIVIST COURT CALENDAR

The European Court of Justice on May 24 rejected a French attempt to overturn a European Union requirement that animal testing of cosmetics cease in the 25 member nations by 2009, along with imports of animal-tested cosmetic products. The French government argued unsuccessfully that the E.U. regulation would unjustly harm the competitive position of French cosmetics manufacturers.

Australian Federal Court Judge James Allsop, of Sydney, on May 27 dismissed an attempt by **Humane Socieity International** Australia director **Michael Kennedy** to sue the Japanese whaling firm **Kyodo Senpaku Kaisha Ltd.** for killing whales inside the **Antarctic Whale Sanctuary**, declared by the Australian government but not recognized by Japan. Allsop accepted the argument of Australian attorney general **Philip Ruddock** that it cannot enforce a territorial claim not recognized by all parties to international agreements. Allsop allowed HSI, the global arm of the **Humane Society of the U.S.**, to appeal to the full bench of the Federal Court.

Justice Stanley Burnton of the **British High Court** on April 12 authorized the **British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection** to pursue an application for judicial review of decisions made by the **Home Office** when it licensed invasive experiments on monkeys at **Cambridge University** in 1998. The BUAV contends that the monkeys are used in ways that contravene the **Animal Scientific Procedures Act** of 1986.

The Oregon Court of Appeals ruled on April 20, 2005 that Oregon Health & Science University need not disclose the names of researchers at the **Oregon Regional Primate Research Center. In Defense of Animals** argued that the identities of researchers should be disclosed in the public interest, but Oregon law specifically exempts Oregon Regional Primate Research Center employees.

U.S. District Judge Rebecca Doherty, of Lafayette, Louisiana, ruled on May 30, 2005 that the **United Gamefowl Breeders Association**, based in Albany, Ohio, had failed to establish that a 2002 federal law prohibiting interstate transport of gamecocks discriminates against Cajuns and Hispanic people. Doherty also rejected claims that cockfighting cannot be regulated as commerce because it is a hobby, and that the federal law usurps states’ rights in attempting to regulate morality.

A three-judge panel of the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania on April 11 agreed that **Lancaster Township** has the right to enforce a 1982 ordinance against spotlighting, even though state law permits it. Hunters often sweep deer habitat with bright lights in the weeks before deer hunting season opens to track herd movements and find bucks they might try to shoot. Spotlighting can, however, startle rural residents who suddenly and repeatedly find their bedrooms lit up at odd hours. A related practice, “jacklighting,” uses light to cause deer to freeze, enabling an illegal night hunter to kill them more easily.

2005 spring session state legislative achievements

Georgia Governor Sonny Purdue on May 10, 2005 signed into law an income tax return check-off to help fund the state **Dog & Cat Sterilization Program**. The program has been supported entirely by the sale of commemorative license plates and unsolicited donations.

The Illinois legislature on June 2, 2005 sent to Governor Rod Blagojevich a revised state **Public Health & Safety Animal Population Control Act**. The act, HB 315, expands the funding sources of the Illinois **Pet Population Control Fund** from a commemorative license plate program to include also an income tax return checkoff, voluntary donations, public safety fines, forfeited sterilization deposits, and a licensing differential for intact animals. The act also updates fines and licensing procedures, requires shelters to offer “adoptable” animals for placement, expands the definition of dangerous dog and streamlines dangerous dog law enforcement, exempts feral cat caretakers from the legal definition of an animal “owner,” and requires shelters to report intake and killing statistics annually to the state **Department of Agriculture**. “HB 669 was also passed. It would provide some funding to wildlife rehabbers,” said **American SPCA** senior director of legal training & legislation **Ledy Van Kavage**, for whom drafting and lobbying HB 315 to passage has been a multi-year focal project.

Washington Governor Christine Gregoire on May 16, 2005 signed into law a bill that increases the penalty for animal fighting from a gross misdemeanor to a Class C felony. This will raise the maximum prison term from one year to five years, and raise the maximum fine from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Maine Governor James Baldacci on May 10 signed into law a bill to prohibit remote control hunting.

The Alabama House of Representatives on May 16 gave **Allen Layson** (D-Reform) the Shroud Award for introducing a bill to reduce the penalties for cruelty to dogs and cats. The award is presented at the end of each legislative session to the author of the bill that attracts the least support.

The Michigan state elections panel on June 2 accepted a referendum petition submitted by the Committee to Restore the Dove Shooting Ban, which will allow voters to decide whether dove hunting should again be illegal in Michigan. Dove hunting was prohibited for 99 years before being reintroduced by the legislature as an intended means of boosting hunting participation, which has been declining for more than 20 years. Backed by the **Humane Society of the U.S.**, the Committee to Restore the Dove Shooting Ban collected 275,000 petition signatures, 110,000 more than were needed to qualify for the ballot.

World standards for farm animals (from page 1)

and should not cause anxiety, distress, pain, or suffering to the animal.”

The World Organization for Animal Health, best known by the French acronym OIE, “is an intergovernmental body whose animal health standards are recognized as a global reference by the World Trade Organisation,” Owen explained.

“The OIE’s Terrestrial Animal Health Code amounts to a common veterinary standard that seeks to prevent the spread of disease by exported farm animals and food products, and discourages new pathogens such as the bird flu virus and mad cow prion,” elaborated Agence France-Presse.

“The OIE code is not obligatory but is regarded as a health benchmark in world animal trade,” Agence France-Presse said.

“Courtesy of Compassion in World Farming, I was invited to speak at a reception for delegates at the Hotel Royal Monceau in Paris,” Ngunyo explained of his participation. “My presentation described why animal welfare standards are important to Africa.”

Best known for organizing snare removal sweeps of the Kenyan national parks and defending the Kenyan ban on sport hunting, Ngunyo emphasized to about 300 of the 500 OIE delegates that Africans care about animal welfare, citing both public health issues and humane concerns.

Rinderpest epidemics introduced to Africa with European livestock during the 19th century have had a lasting effect on the ecology and economics of the continent, perhaps nowhere more than in Kenya.

But the cattle-herding Masai were horrified that Europeans in 2001 killed tens of thousands of cattle, especially in Britain, to control hoof-and-mouth disease. The Masai treat cattle for hoof-and-mouth disease, even though hoof-and-mouth lastingly reduces the milk and meat yield of a cow. Masai leaders made repeated unsuccessful attempts to intercede on behalf of the diseased European cattle, perplexed that people who care about dogs and wildlife could be so seemingly indifferent toward livestock.

Airlines will not fly lab animals

LONDON—Outsourcing animal research to nations where it remains lightly regulated and non-controversial may accelerate with the May 2005 decisions of British Airways, Air Mauritius, and Air China to stop carrying animals who may be used in laboratories.

“I can confirm that Air China does not fly any laboratory animals into the U.K. Our European offices also do not carry primates and other animals destined for vivisection. There are now no Air China flights worldwide carrying live animals for this purpose,” said Lorna Allen, Air China marketing manager for Britain and Ireland, in an e-mail posted at the Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty web site.

Like other such policy decisions by national airways, the Air China policy tends to encourage building labs and doing experiments where the animals are, instead of moving animals to existing labs which are often due for upgrade or replacement anyway.

As biotech work already draws heavily on personnel recruited from Asia, the British Department of Trade & Industry is becoming anxious about losing both breaking-edge research and routine animal testing to Asian nations.

“Trade & Industry officials are understood to have raised their concerns with senior British Airways management after the airline’s decision not to accept the carriage of primates, wild birds, or other live-caught animals ‘for use in any laboratory or for experimentation or exploitation,’” reported Mark Honigsbaum and Alok Jha of *The Guardian* on May 28.

British Airways adopted this policy, Honigsbaum and Jha wrote, after “a campaign by extremists” that targeted airline and airport management. Vandalism of homes and vehicles “was followed by demonstrations at airline offices and travel agents across the UK by a group called Gateway to Hell, ‘demanding a boycott of all travel to Mauritius. An Air Mauritius spokesperson said it was not prepared to risk its tourism industry while British Airways appears to be at odds with British policy.’”

A British Airways spokes-
(continued on page 18)

The Hotel Royal Monceau reception appeared to clinch the favorable vote on the standards.

“A film on transport and slaughter was shown,” Ngunyo recounted. “Each delegate was given a copy. Various representatives made presentations,” including Wilkins, Levente Pencz of the Fauna Association in Hungary, Barbara Dias Pais of the European Coalition for Farm Animals, Ghislain Zuccolo of Protection Mondiale des Animaux de Ferme, and CIWF staff Kerry Burgess and Paul Hook.

“Carole de Fraga and Lesley Lambert of CIWF presented more than 5,000 postcards received worldwide to OIE head Dr. Bernard Vallat,” Ngunyo said.

Avian flu & broiler standards

The OIE adoption of animal welfare standards followed an April 8 declaration issued in concert with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization that mass culling of poultry should no longer be considered an acceptable method of combating the spread of the H5N1 avian influenza strain, which has killed at least 56 humans, 37 of them in Vietnam.

“For ethical, ecological, and economic reasons,” the OIE and FAO said, farmers and governments should vaccinate against H5N1 instead of culling.

This “follows a realisation that killing large numbers of birds is unlikely to eliminate H5N1,” the journal *Nature* summarized. “The virus is widespread in both wild and domestic bird populations, meaning it will continue to re-emerge no matter how many birds are killed. Previously, some Asian governments preferred culling because they feared that vaccinating birds would merely eliminate symptoms, allowing the virus to spread undetected.”

The European Commission and World Health Organization followed up by adopting new policies for responding to H5N1, while China reportedly used vaccination successfully to contain an outbreak that killed more than 1,000 wild migratory waterfowl in western Qinghai province.

But the regulatory momentum on behalf of farm ani-

British lab review findings

LONDON—A two-year review of British animal experiments by the Nuffield Council on Bioethics, released on May 25, 2005, concluded that proprietary concerns and anxiety about physical security inhibit the exchange of findings which could reduce animal use.

British labs used 2.8 million animals in 2004, up from recent years, but half the numbers used in the 1970s, according to Home Office figures.

The Nuffield Council criticized the Home Office for insufficiently determining how many animals are killed, how many die in care, and how much suffering they endure.

The Nuffield report was compiled by a panel of 18 animal advocates, ethicists, and scientists from both academia and private industry. It followed a 2002 House of Lords select committee report and a 2003 report by the Animal Procedures Committee, an advisory body created by the Scientific Procedures Act of 1986.

mals appeared to be broken with the May 31, 2005 publication of draft European Union standards for raising broiler chickens. The draft standards allow broiler chickens less floor space than battery-caged egg layers—slightly less than could be covered by a standard-size sheet of letter paper.

“This legislation will do little to improve the lives of chickens in its current form,” Royal SPCA scientific officer Marc Cooper told Amanda Brown, environment correspondent for *The Scotsman*.

“Surprisingly,” Cooper added, “the recommendation on the space required for each bird ignores the advice of the E.U.’s own scientific advisory committee.”

The Scots group Advocates for Animals made the same observation.

“The United Kingdom government takes the [rotating] presidency of the E.U. today,” Advocates for Animals director Ross Minett said on June 1. “We urge the Scottish Executive to ensure that the U.K. government uses its presidency to demand genuine improvements in broiler welfare.”

Korean researcher clones human stem cells—and loses monkeys to fire (from page 17)

tilization in 1993; the first South Korean cloned cow in 1999; the first South Korean cloned pigs in 2002; and the first cows genetically engineered to resist mad cow disease, in 2003.

Most of this, perhaps all, could have been done without loss of life beyond the embryonic stage, but Woo Suk Hwang has plans that almost certainly involve severely injuring and eventually killing laboratory animals.

“This year,” wrote Brooke, “he hopes to use animal stem cells to treat spinal cord injuries in rats, dogs, and possibly monkeys. If the animal trials go well, he hopes to apply for permission in South Korea and the U.S. to start conducting human trials in two to three years.”

Finding adequate specimens without deliberately injuring animals would be unlikely.

But Woo Suk Hwang would have to replace 99 monkeys after an April 20 power transformer fire at the Korea Research Institute of Bioscience & Biotechnology in Daejeon, the only primate laboratory in South Korea.

The fire caused a two-hour electrical blackout. The 135 monkeys housed at the lab overheated. “Power from a backup source was supplied immediately, but the fire somehow broke the temperature control device,” lab publicity manager Kim Yeong-gwon told the *Joongang Daily*.

“We found more than half of the monkeys dead,” primate research center chief Hyun Byung-hwa said.

Three days after the fire, the *Korea Times* disclosed that Woo Suk Hwang and team had “discovered ways to prevent monkeys rejecting organ transplants from pigs, paving the way for the use of animal organs and cells in humans,” Agence France-Presse summarized.

The *Korea Times* quoted a research team member as stating that they had produced “dozens of pigs embedded with human immunity genes since late last year.”

Hwang had intended to begin trying to transplant hearts and insulin-producing cells from cloned miniature pigs into monkeys in June 2005, but that phase of the work was delayed by the laboratory fire, the *Korea Times* reported.

Seoul National University and other South Korean labs have emerged as world leaders in biotech not just because they have talented scientists, but also because they can work inexpensively with minimal regulatory restraint.

Woo Suk Hwang and the 45 researchers and technicians employed in his lab operate on a total budget of just \$2 million per year, Brooke wrote.

In view of the economic promise of Woo Suk Hwang’s experiments, the South Korean government has

announced plans to increase the lab budget by 50% and to build a six-story \$25 million headquarters for stem cell research.

A similar facility under construction by Oxford University in England is to cost \$32 million—if there are no further cost overruns as result of a series of delays associated with anti-vivisection protests. The work was suspended entirely throughout th latter half of 2004.

Opposition to animal use in biomedical research is not unknown in South Korea, but the South Korean antivivisection movement is small, orderly, and still seeking basic animal welfare regulations that have been in effect in Britain, the U.S., and much of western Europe for decades.

Currently, South Korean government supervision of animal use is mostly limited to maintaining biosecurity, so as to avoid spreading disease.

Several prominent South Korean biomedical researchers aligned themselves with the dog meat industry in a November 2001 public statement, timed to forestall the introduction of broadly applicable animal welfare legislation that animal advocates had hoped might be introduced in response to the threat of a boycott of the 2002 World Cup soccer tournament. The 2002 World Cup matches were divided between South Korea and Japan.

Airlines & lab animals (from 17)

person told Hongsbaum and Jha that the airline quit hauling animals for labs because, “This is a specialist cargo. Carrying these animals is not part of our core business.”

British Airways will continue to carry frozen mouse embryos for labs, an easier cargo to handle and much less conspicuous.

British labs used about 4,800 monkeys in 2003, most of them from nations which are working to develop their own biotech industries. Mauritius supplied 7,843 of the 13,467 monkeys imported into Britain between 1994 and 2000.

British labs have not been permitted to use wild-caught monkeys since 1995, but activists argue that some of the imported monkeys might have been among the 9,000 macaques who were captured as breeding stock by Mauritian companies between 1992 and 1995.

Gateway to Hell has also directed protest toward Air France, for allegedly flying monkeys from Mauritius to Paris, to be trucked and ferried to Britain.

A company called Centre de Recherches Primatologiques Limited is reportedly now trying for the third time in recent years to establish a monkey breeding facility in Camarales, Tarragona, Spain, which could also bypass airlines to supply labs elsewhere in Europe.

The Gateway tactics, wrote Honigsbaum and Jha, “mirror those employed by SHAC—hardly surprising, say police, who claim Gateway and SHAC are two halves of the same organization.”

Jury selection began on

June 2 in Trenton, New Jersey, for the trial of U.S. SHAC leaders Kevin Kjonaas, 27; Lauren Gazzola, 26; Jacob Conroy, 29; Joshua Harper, 30; Darius Fullmer, 28; John McGee, 26; and Andrew Stepanian, 26.

Arrested in May 2004, the defendants are charged with three counts each of interstate stalking and one count of conspiracy. Each could get five years in prison plus a fine of \$250,000, under the federal Animal Enterprise Act, passed by Congress in 1992, strengthened in 2002.

On June 1, Peonyland nursery owner Michael Hsu, of nearby Allentown, Pennsylvania, announced that he was abandoning a plan to build housing on the nursery site for up to 500 research monkeys.

The nursery was extensively vandalized on the night of May 26 by raiders whose methods resembled attacks on property belonging to Huntingdon personnel. Graffiti left at the scene named the Animal Liberation Front. Hsu said his decision was prompted by realizing that the lot is too small.

Covance lab monkey care exposed again

NORFOLK—PETA research and investigations chief Mary Beth Sweetland told news media on May 17, 2005 that undercover investigator Lisa Leitten between April 26, 2004 and March 11, 2005 “secretly videotaped repeated violations of the federal Animal Welfare Act,” at a Covance Research Products laboratory in Vienna, Virginia.

Alleged violations, Sweetland said, included “punching, choking, and taunting injured monkeys; recycling sick monkeys into new experiments; failing to administer veterinary care to severely wounded monkeys; failing to euthanize monkeys who were in extreme distress; and failing to properly oversee lab workers,” who allegedly “tore monkeys from their cages and violently shoved them into restraint tubes.”

Sweetland said Leitten’s undercover video also showed Covance staff “performing painful and stressful procedures in full view of other animals, monkeys with chronic rectal prolapses resulting from constant stress and diarrhea,” monkeys suffering from “daily bloody noses” as result of harsh intubation, and “monkey self-mutilation resulting from failure to provide psychological enrichment and socialization.”

PETA filed a 253-page complaint to the USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, asking that the lab “be shut down until a thorough investigation can be conducted.”

Covance responded by suing PETA and Leitten in Fairfax County, Virginia, demanding that PETA surrender the originals and all copies of Leitten’s documentation, cease web publicity about the investigation, and agree to never again infiltrate Covance.

Covance accused PETA and Leitten of fraud, conspiring to harm its business, and violating a nondisclosure agreement that Leitten signed when she began work there as a primate care technician, wrote Bonnie Pfister of Associated Press.

Pfister and other reporters confirmed that the PETA materials “depict frightened monkeys being yanked from their cages and handled roughly by aggressive, often cursing technicians.”

Leitten, 30, told media that the Covance investigation was her third for PETA, and would be her last. She holds an M.A. from Central Washington

University, where she worked under linguist and animal advocate Roger Fouts at the Chimpanzee and Human Communication Institute. Her first undercover job for PETA, beginning in May 2002, was a nine-month stint at a contract research lab in Missouri that did feeding studies for Iams, a subsidiary of Procter & Gamble.

Leitten’s findings caused Iams to fire the lab.

Leitten in 2003 infiltrated the Amarillo Wildlife Refuge in Texas, which was eventually cited for several Animal Welfare Act violations as result of a PETA complaint. By May 2004 the refuge was in compliance, USDA spokesperson Darby Holliday told David Fleshler of the *South Florida Sun Sentinel*.

Covance was assembled as a subsidiary of Corning, Inc. during the 1980s and 1990s, through the acquisition of independent drug development companies. “In January 1997, Corning spun off these businesses as one publicly-traded, independent company called Covance Inc.,” says the company web site. Based in Princeton, New Jersey, Covance now claims “annual net revenues totaling more than \$1 billion, over 6,600 employees and 17 offices throughout the world.”

Covance came to the attention of animal advocates after U.S. lab purchases of monkeys from abroad more than doubled between 1997 and 2002. Charles River Laboratories imported 36% of the monkeys; Covance imported 30%.

The British Union Against Vivisection in 2003 hired freelance journalist Friedrich Mulln to infiltrate a Covance nonhuman primate facility in Munster, Germany. Mulln, like Leitten, produced undercover video of staff allegedly abusing monkeys. As the case broke, Covance won an injunction against further distribution of the video by Mulln, but BUAV was beyond the jurisdiction of the court. Images from the investigation remain accessible at various web sites.

Some Covance animal welfare issues have emerged in other ways. On January 24, 2005 a fire of unknown origin at Covance Research Products’ Texter Mountain complex in Millcreek Township, Pennsylvania razed one of four barns which according to a 2001 USDA report cumulatively housed 14,000 rabbits. Heavy smoke reportedly interfered with employees’ efforts to evacuate the rabbits.

“Madness” in Karachi rabies response

KARACHI, Pakistan—“Karachi mayor Niamatullah Khan is about to go on a rampage, poisoning 500,000 stray dogs in total disregard of alternatives presented by the Pakistan Animal Welfare Society, along with a large number of doctors, health officials, and Karachi citizens,” Engineers and Scientists for Animal Rights founder Syed Rizvi warned on Friday, May 13, 2005, in an e-mail quickly distributed worldwide by pro-animal newsgroups.

Born and raised in Karachi, Rizvi now lives in San Jose, California, but maintains close contact with Pakistani animal advocates.

“The City of Karachi is preparing 500,000 strychnine capsules,” Rizvi charged. “I have been in constant touch with Mahera Omar of the Pakistan Animal Welfare Society, who is asking that e-mails and letters from the international community be sent to the authorities, asking them to refrain from this barbaric practice.

“Please e-mail to General Parvez Musharraf, the President of Pakistan, who is a dog lover himself,” Rizvi asked. “Some might have seen his picture in *Newsweek* recently, holding his two little dogs close to his heart.”

“The World Society for the Protection of Animals will fax a letter to the President of Pakistan on behalf of our 506 member societies in 126 countries to protest this decision, and to offer WSPA’s services to discuss a more humane policy,” responded WSPA director general Peter Davies.

The intensive exposure of the poisoning plans brought mixed results.

“On the one hand, the city government has offered cooperation to PAWS in setting up an Animal Birth Control program in Karachi,” Mahera Omar and Maheen Zia of the Pakistan Animal Welfare Society posted to <www.pawspakistan.org> on June 3. “On the other, it is resolutely continuing its senseless dog killing. While we fully intend to take the nazim [mayor] up on his word, we believe the offer of help is lip-service, as the May 30 meeting which was supposed to explore alternative strategies began with the distribution of flyers announcing the strategy already decided upon: mass strychnine poisoning of stray dogs.

“The 3-page handout indicated that photographs of dead dogs are to be published in leading newspapers to keep the public informed of the progress of the campaign,” Omar and Zia said. “In addition, two million rupees [about \$34,000] have been allocated as rewards for the most successful poisoners. This is clearly madness,” Omar and Zia opined.

Warning tied to vaccine issue

Animal Save Movement president Khalid Mahmood Qureshi, of Multan, warned **ANIMAL PEOPLE** on March 18, 2005 that the dog massacre was coming.

E-mailed Qureshi, “The mayor of Karachi and the health department have declared that they will kill dogs in 18 towns,” once suburbs, now engulfed by the sprawling metropolis. Qureshi said that the Karachi city government and the Sind state governments had offered bounties amounting to about 40¢ per dog.

Qureshi alleged that the dog-killing had begun in response to a shortage of human post-exposure vaccine.

ANIMAL PEOPLE consulted many other sources, but for six weeks all denied that there was either a vaccine shortage or a dog massacre underway, other than sporadic poisoning by aggrieved private individuals.

Indirect confirmation finally came through a forwarded statement by Infectious Disease Society of Pakistan president Naseem Salahuddin, who is also a member of the World Health Organization Expert Committee on Rabies.

“For nearly seven years the Infectious Disease Society of Pakistan has advocated that the National Institutes of Health in Islamabad should discontinue dispensing the obsolete and ineffective Semple sheep brain post-exposure vaccine,” Salahuddin explained. “Public pressure has finally prevailed.”

On April 8 the official Pakistani post-exposure rabies vaccination became a tissue culture vaccine, with a much higher reliability rating. Conversion to tissue culture vaccinations had already been underway at some hospitals for as long as 10

years.

Rumors about a vaccine shortage may have developed as result of hospitals using up their stocks of the Semple vaccine before introducing the alternatives.

Just two major hospitals in Karachi provide post-exposure vaccination to more than 50 dog bite victims per day, Salahuddin said.

“There is a great need to educate the general public regarding danger of dog bite, its relation to the deadly disease, and prevention of rabies by using proper preventive measures,” Salahuddin emphasized. “This must be done regularly through the press, lectures and handouts. Most doctors [in Pakistan] are inexperienced and not updated on modern methods. Wrong advice and improper handling of bite cases can lead to rabies,” and to public panic, Salahuddin continued.

“The Infectious Disease Society of Pakistan plans to hold workshops on rabies prevention in small towns and rural health centers,” Salahuddin promised.

“Most importantly,” Salahuddin stated, “dog bite should be prevented by reducing the stray dog population. Niamatullah Khan supports this viewpoint,” Salahuddin said, recommending a three-point strategy.

“Catch, neuter, vaccinate and release stray dogs,” Salaheddin urged as one essential element. “Neutered animals not only are likely to be less aggressive, but will not multiply.

“Encourage people to own stray or pet dogs,” Salaheddin added. “Vaccinate them and keep a vaccination record. Rogue dogs should be killed, as they pose the greatest danger to the human population,” Salaheddin concluded, making clear that he meant only dogs who have threatened or attacked people and other animals.

“Killing dogs randomly has never been proved to be successful in any country,” Salaheddin reminded, citing the success of Thailand, Sri Lanka, and Malaysia in using a similar strategy to “successfully reduce their numbers of dog bites and rabies cases to very low levels.”

But only three days later, *Dawn*, the leading English daily newspaper in Pakistan, announced that Niamatullah Khan had “decided to launch a major campaign” against homeless dogs, to “continue until their total elimination.”

In all likelihood “total elimination” cannot be achieved due to the abundance of refuse and rats in Pakistani streets. Dogs may become less visible for a time, but will rapidly breed back up to the high carrying capacity of the habitat within a year or less, as after previous poisoning and shooting campaigns.

“The nazim directed the Department of Health to take concrete measures for providing the required number of [poison] capsules for killing stray dogs,” *Dawn* reported, “strongly instructing that they should not fall short, as in the past.”

Acknowledged Salahuddin, “Mahera Omar [of the Pakistan Animal Welfare Society] suggested more humane methods, such as ABC or vaccinating stray dogs. This is highly impractical, given that we have no vets in the government sector to carry this out.

“People of Karachi do not want to see dead dogs, but neither do we physicicans want to see horrible cases of dog bites and rabies. We have a duty to save our people first,” Salaheddin said.

“Colored water”

“The rabies situation in Pakistan is a total disaster, as bad as the worst I saw in West Africa decades ago,” offered Henry Wilde, M.D., director of the Queen Saovabha Memorial Institute in Bangkok, established in 1921 as a rabies prevention and treatment facility, now involved in fighting many other viral diseases.

Wilde has visited Pakistan three times to lecture and investigate rabies outbreaks, he told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**. “They have been using Semple vaccine made locally for years, which my staff and local as well as Paris experts have found to be completely devoid of antigen,” Wilde said, describing it as



Pakistani children play with dogs. (Shoaib Awan)

“colored water.”

Wilde opined in an hour-long meeting with **ANIMAL PEOPLE** that the shortage of veterinarians in Pakistan is so acute and the abundance of street dogs so large that it will be necessary to kill dogs just to reduce the numbers enough to have a hope of being able to sterilize and vaccinate 70%.

“I know you don’t want to hear that,” Wilde said.

Introducing sterilization

“A handful of animal loving organizations and people from Geo T.V. are trying their level best to stop the mass killing of dogs,” offered I.H. Kathio, DVM.

Born in Larkana, Pakistan, Kathio, 51, now owns three U.S. veterinary clinics and three others in Pakistan. His primary practice is in Pennsylvania, but he also directs a pilot dog and cat sterilization project at the government-funded Richmond Crawford Animal Hospital in Karachi.

“In this hospital I am setting up an American-standard surgical and examination room,” Kathio told **ANIMAL PEOPLE** in November 2004. I am donating surgical and medical supplies.”

Kathio expressed hope that he can eventually train enough veterinary surgeons to do high-speed sterilization under strictly aseptic conditions to equip Karachi, and Pakistan, to deal with dog overpopulation humanely.

Meanwhile, argued Rizvi, “Dogs are a part of our urban ecology. Poisoning them can create environmental havoc. Moreover, poisoning is a painful way to kill animals, and inimical to the teachings of the Holy Prophet, who said ‘Whoever is kind to the creatures of God is kind to himself.’ I understand people in Karachi are being rewarded when someone shoots a dog and brings the tail to the authorities for compensation. This is in total contempt of the teachings of the Holy Prophet, who said ‘If you must kill, kill without torture.’”

Rizvi told fellow protesters against the Karachi poisoning that Pakistan is not an inhumane nation, regardless of superficial appearance.

“A few years ago, I visited Karachi, my former place of residence, and was overwhelmed by the positive response I received when I talked about animal rights at the Hotel Metropole,” he said. “The Pakistan Arts Council, the Pakistan Medical Association, and Engineers and Scientist for Animal Rights had sponsored an art exhibit on the humane treatment of animals. I was moved by the children’s presentations. They profoundly expressed their concern for animals.”

“We will strongly protest this genocide,” Qureshi pledged. —Merritt Clifton

University of Nevada fined

RENO—Substantiating complaints filed by University of Nevada at Reno associate professor Hussein S. Hussein, the USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service in May 2005 cited the university for 46 violations of the federal Animal Welfare Act allegedly committed between May 25, 2004 and March 21, 2005.

The university agreed to pay fines totaling \$11,400 to avoid going to court.

“The violations included repeatedly leaving 10 research pigs without adequate water between May and September and improperly housing the same pigs, frequent poor sanitation of animal care facilities, lack of veterinary care, improper oversight of research activities, failing to investigate complaints of animal neglect and poor record keeping, and failing to properly train university farm employees,” wrote Frank X. Mullen Jr. of the Reno *Gazette-Journal*.

Mullen made the case public in a December 2004 three-part investigative series, after the university pursued disciplinary action against Hussein. A faculty panel in April 2005 held that the charges against Hussein were without merit.

The Animal Prayer Guide

by *Niki Behrikis Shanahan*

Pete Publishing (P.O. Box 282, Tyngsborough, MA 01879), 2005.
128 pages, paperback. \$12.98 c/o <www.eternalanimals.com>.

The Animal Prayer Guide is written with the firm conviction that animal beings are just as worthy as humans of the attention, concern, and blessings of their Creator.

The author does not try to bolster this position with Biblical or theological arguments: for her it is a faith-based fact. She offers hope, comfort, and practical suggestions to help deal with the everyday challenges that face animals and their human companions.

There are prayers for lost animals, for those confined in shelters, and for those who are sick and in need of healing. Along with prayers addressed to particular situations, the author has provided pertinent scriptural references and heart-warming anecdotes, along with quotations from such diverse sources as William Blake and Abraham Lincoln. There are also celebratory prayers and rituals that include animal companions in the observance

of holidays like Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter.

The Animal Prayer Guide includes a section that can be used in a blessing-of-the-animals either individually, with a few friends, or as part of a church service.

Finally, there are prayers and reflections for a memorial service that not only commemorates the life of a companion who has passed on, but also offers scriptural promises that the parting is only temporary and there will come a time when “[God]will wipe away every tear...there will be no more death or crying or mourning or pain because the old order of things has passed away.” —*J.R. Hyland*

[J.R. Hyland is founder of Humane Religion, <www.Humane-Religion.org>, an educational and outreach organization, and is author of God's Covenant With Animals, Sexism Is A Sin and The Slaughter of Terrified Beasts.]

Nobody’s Pets

by *Debra White*

Four Footed Friends (P.O. Box 25736, Tempe, AZ 85285), 2001. \$8.95, paperback.

Nobody’s Pet is a tale about shelter dogs and cats, told by the animals themselves, through longtime Maricopa County Animal Care & Control volunteer Debra White. The book begins with two men breaking into an animal shelter at night to steal the animals with the intention of selling them to labs for use in experiments.

The stolen cats and dogs

escape and find their way home after many adventures.

The dialogue among the animals is unconvincing, partly because there is little character development. There is also little atmosphere because the place descriptions are superficial.

It is unfortunate that the book is disjointed and lacking in depth, as the author’s heart is in the right place. —*Beverley Pervan*

Editor’s note:

Thousands of dogs and cats have been stolen for sale to labs, chiefly through fraudulent adoption of free-to-good-home animals, but breaking into shelters to

Miracle Dog

by Randy Grim

Alpine Publications (P.O. Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537), 2005. 120 pages, paperback. \$19.95.

Quentin, a shelter dog, in August 2003 survived the St. Louis Animal Regulation gas chamber, was adopted by Stray Rescue founder Randy Grim, and became an icon of the no-kill movement.

Grim himself became a icon of the no-kill movement about a year earlier, through the publication of a biography, *The man who talks to dogs*, by Melinda Roth.

In *Miracle Dog*, Grim tells his own story. Like our colleague Cicely Blumberg, here in Cape Town, South Africa, Grim devotes his life to helping orphaned, injured, and lost dogs in the bad parts of town.

Among the most telling parts of *Miracle Dog* are Grim’s observations of how people reacted to Quentin’s sudden celebrity status. Grim recounts that 700 people wrote to him offering to take Quentin for adoption. When they were told, “Sorry, he is staying with me, but won’t you please save another dog from the gas chamber,” there were no takers.

Writing from their homes,

supply labs has no documented precedent. In truth, pounds contiue to provide as many animals to labs as they want, either for free or at nominal cost. This practice has been outlawed for 20 years or more in 13 states, but continues in Jackson, Michigan, for example, despite active local opposition since the early 1960s.

Shelter break-ins are, however, a growing problem.

the letter-writers could say “No” more easily than the small army of people who lined up for hours at the North Shore Animal League in 1996 to try to adopt Scarlet the cat and her surviving kittens, after Scarlet rescued the kittens one by one from a blazing building. Hundreds of other animals were adopted by the people who came for Scarlet and her kittens, but were persuaded, as much by the homeless animals as anyone else, to take others in need.

When Randy and Quentin flew to New York City to appear on NBC with host John Walsh, a stretch limo was waiting for them.

“We could sure use the money the limo cost to support more dogs at the shelter,” Grim says—though the limo might have been the least costly way to get him to the studio on time in a city where many cabs do not carry animals.

“Two weeks ago,” Grim writes, “nobody on this earth gave a damn about this beyond-lovable little guy. Now his arrival at the airport merits Fox News coverage.”

Grim exposes other anomalies in shelter rescue: the hostility of many animal control officers to the no-kill movement, the often callous indifference at official levels toward animal suffering, and how the Humane Society of Missouri, once among the more progressive humane organizations in the U.S., under the present administration

refuses to cooperate with local no-kill humane societies to apply for a Maddie’s Fund grant that would help the St. Louis area transition to no-kill animal control.

On the appalling condition of typical animal shelters, he quotes **ANIMAL PEOPLE** editor Merritt Clifton: “If you keep dogs and cats in a facility that looks like a jail and smells like a cesspool, dogs and cats all over town will be treated like prisoners on a chain gang, because the condition of your facility sends the message that you think this is okay. If you treat dogs and cats as if they are honored guests, the community standards will rise to your standard. This has been proven time and again.”

Grim ends with a passionate plea for cities to adopt no-kill policies. “No-kill promotes educational programs, spay and neuter programs for the poor, progressive adoption events, and, most importantly, community involvement and hope. I am often asked what one person can do,” Grim summarizes. “My answer is: a lot. A story like Quentin’s should compel all animal lovers to unite and work toward one common goal—to stop the killing.”

Grim emphasizes that dogs are not just throwaway items: they are all potential Quentins, who deserve love and loyalty.

—*Chris Mercer & Bev Pervan*
<www.cannedlion.co.za>

Sacramento city animal control chief Hector Cazares, previously animal control chief for San Diego County, recently told Sacramento Bee staff writer Mareva Brown that over the years he has seen a pattern to shelter break-ins.

“Almost always, it’s been [to take] a condemned animal,” Cazares said, “and it’s almost always a pit bull terrier.”

Only one exception turned

up in the ANIMAL PEOPLE dog and cat theft files from the past half dozen years. That was the theft of three chow-mix puppies from the Colorado Humane Society in February 2004. Convicted perpetrator Ryan Turtura, 20, on April 29, 2005 accepted a 10.5-year plea bargain sentence for setting the puppies on fire, killing two of them, and giving methamphetamines to two teenaged girls.

STRAIGHT FROM THE HORSE’S MOUTH *by Amelia Kinkade*
New World Library (14 Pamaron Way, Novato, CA 94949), 2001. 295 pages, paperback. \$14.95.

We have read many books by people who claimed to be able to converse with animals. None have been so difficult to dismiss as hocus-pocus as this one.

Kinkade presents herself as a psychic who uses her gift to communicate with animals and their departed spirits. Anticipating initial skepticism on the part of the reader, Kinkade recounts how she too moved from being a skeptic to becoming a believer.

Then she discusses the different forms that telepathy can take, namely clairvoyance (telepathy with images), clairsentience (telepathy of feelings or sensations), and clairaudience (being able to hear the voices of the animals speaking in English).

Kinkade uses transcendental meditation to put herself into communication with animals. Transcendental meditation has been practised for so long by so many people, and the benefits therefrom are so well documented, that it is not easily debunked.

Once the mind is uncluttered of random thoughts and anxieties, and the metabolism is slowed, a state of blissful tranquility occurs. It would not be surprising if someone with psychic skills could use the meditative mind to heighten her sensitivity to images, thoughts, and sensations projected by other living beings.

Thereafter, difficulties of interpretation and understanding arise, and Kinkade discusses these with disarming frankness.

For us the final chapter, about what

Kinkade calls “starlight vision,” is of particular interest. Here Kinkade pulls quantum physics and telepathy together to construct a well-written and credible philosophy of compassion for animals.

Do we euthanase a suffering and terminally ill companion animal, or do we let him go naturally? Kinkade tells us what she believes the animals say on the subject.

What happens to our souls after death? Do we just dissolve into a pool of collective consciousness? No! says Kinkade, asserting that, “The soul of every living creature remains intact, individual, unique, conscious and observant long after death.”

Does Kinkade believe in reincarnation? Yes.

Is it cruel to keep cats indoors all their lives to protect them from traffic and other city hazards? Yes, says Kinkade. Animals need natural surroundings.

This is more than just an aesthetic preference. Kinkade believes that we derive life energy from plants and other living things. People who perform violent acts upon animals, she believes, will accumulate bad karma. So too do those who do so indirectly by eating or using animals who have been killed cruelly.

As she puts it, “When we disassociate, we give our power away: to the media, the meat industry, the slaughterhouses, the cosmetic tycoons, the rendering plants. This is precisely why most people are not clairsentient and clairvoyant. This is why most people

cannot use Gestalt, remote viewing, and their starlight vision. There are too many aspects of ourselves we don’t want to see and don’t want to feel. When we disassociate, we shut out the truth in an attempt to shut out the pain.”

We are still uncomfortable with the assertion that animals and their spirits can converse freely, using the English language, with

humans. This goes far beyond the scope of our own no doubt limited experience and imagination. But in all other respects this book made fascinating reading, and gives practical guidelines to people who wish to develop their own psychic abilities.

—Chris Mercer & Beverley Pervan
<www.cannedlion.co.za>

Getting Lucky *by Susan Marino with Denise Flaim*
Stewart, Tabori & Chang (c/o La Martiniere Groupe, 115 West 18th St.,
New York, NY 10011), 2005. 144 pages, hardcover. \$18.95.

Susan Marino founded and runs the Angel’s Gate Animal Hospice at her home on Long Island. Her nursing career, allied to a dedication and commitment to unselfish giving of love, has given her the ability to care for the countless ailing and injured animals who are carried to her door.

Her door is open to all animals, regardless of species, and here they find a loving sanctuary until death eventually claims them.

Getting Lucky is beautifully bound in glossy paper with color portraits of the animals the book introduces. Each gets a chapter. The result is somewhat processional, as one animal after another is paraded before the reader. But the stories are charming and well written, centering around a Great Dane called Lucky. The thematic binding thread is that all life is precious, and should be preserved as long as the animal would want it. Terminally ill animals are not euthanized

but instead are nursed until death occurs naturally.

“All of the animals at Angel’s Gate are special, but some, like Lucky, commandeer you in an indescribably wrenching way: it’s as if you share the same heart. And when their time begins to wane, your emotions can push aside a lifetime’s worth of wisdom. All you want is more—one more minute, one more day, one more furry nuzzle, one more look into those knowing eyes.”

One tale which touched me was that of a young school boy. Sixth grade students were hatching Peking ducklings in an incubator as a class project. When the boy asked what would happen to the ducks when they outgrew the science project, he was horrified to be told that they would be slaughtered.

“Tim decided on the spot that that was not an acceptable option. So he called around for days trying to find a refuge for the fledg-

ling ducks. Finally he found me. He told me his sad story, concluding quietly, ‘Will you take my ducks?’ What do you think I said?”

But when Tim arrived at Angel’s Gate, driven there by his dad, he didn’t have the four ducks that he had described to me over the phone. No, he had 24 ducks! Not only had he called on all his classmates to round up all the other imperiled ducklings that had been reared in other classes, but he had created such an uproar at the school that the administration had vowed never to incubate any eggs, Peking or otherwise, ever again.”

What this and the other stories tell me is how many adults treat animals, especially the sick or injured, as throwaway pets, and it takes a child to remind us of our moral duty to all sentient beings.

—Bev Pervan
<www.cannedlion.co.za>

ANIMAL OBITUARIES

Spirit of Peace, a rare white bison calf born prematurely in the North Peace region of British Columbia, died on June 1, 2005 after he refused to eat, rancher Karen Blatz said. Blatz had been bottle-feeding him, and took him to a veterinarian for antibiotic treatment, to no avail.

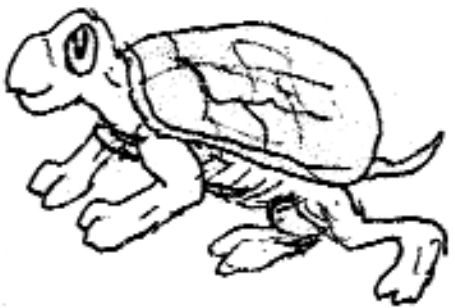
Angela, 23, a diabetic chimpanzee, was euthanized on May 19 at the Belfast Zoo, due to a chronic painful leg condition.

Asiad Appu, 27, an elephant who was crippled as an infant by falling into a septic tank at Palakkad, India, died on May 14 in Punnathurkotta, India. A playful nature caused Appu, then called Kuttinarayanan, to be designated celebrity mascot of the 1982 Second Asian Games by the late Indira Gandhi and her son Rajiv Gandhi, both prime ministers of India who were eventually assassinated.

Big Al, a wandering moufflon sheep, was on May 26, 2005 killed by a car on Interstate 43 near Elkhorn, Wisconsin. A variety native to the Mediterranean, Big Al wandered into town without explanation in late 2004, and had hung around there ever since.

Ikaika and Lehua, two squirrel monkeys who spent much of their lives in a glass enclosure at the Blue Tropix nightclub in Honolulu, died separately in April 2005, less than three months after they were retired to the Panaewa Rainforest Zoo in Hilo.

Nyssa, a one-year-old female wolf who in 2004 was introduced into the same enclosure at the International Wolf Center in Ely, Minnesota as two late adolescent Arctic wolves, was attacked and killed by the Arctic wolves on May 12, soon after she was returned to the pack following spaying.



Churchill, 18, a polar bear born in 1980 at the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha, died on May 26 at the St. Louis Zoo, during surgery to remove accumulated plastic trash bags and articles of clothing from his stomach.

Honi, 27, a South American sea lion, believed to be among the oldest of his species, died on May 25 at the Valley Zoo in Edmonton, Alberta.

Tony, 44, a hippopotamus born at the Jackson Zoo in Mississippi, who had lived at the Audubon Zoo in New Orleans since 1964, died on May 17. Rosebud, his mate for 16 years, died in 1989 at age 19 from an apparent complication of birthing. Their baby, Duffy, died six days later from refusing to eat.

Karoo, a nine-month-old koala whose infancy was a top draw at the Riverbanks Zoo in Columbia, South Carolina, was found dead of an unknown cause on the floor of the koala exhibit when the zoo opened on May 23. The first koala born at the Riverbanks Zoo, Karoo had weaned successfully, and had begun to occasionally make brief forays away from the side of his mother, Lottie.

Elephants source of Marburg & Ebola?

LUANDA—The World Health Organization and Angola Ministry of Health are optimistic that the worst outbreak on record of the Ebola-like Marburg hemorrhagic fever may be close to burning itself out, after 423 known cases through June 5, 357 of them fatal, including 346 of the 412 cases that occurred in the city of Uige, where the outbreak was first recognized.

The Uige outbreak may never be clearly traced to a source, since the first persons exposed apparently all died before sharing details about how they fell ill. Once either Marburg or Ebola occurs among humans, it spreads chiefly through human contact.

Investigators are more optimistic about finding the origin of an Ebola outbreak that struck the Cuvette-Ouest region of the Republic of Congo in April, killing at least 10 people. The first victims were “five hunters who became ill after emerging from the forest,” Wildlife Conservation Society field veterinary program director William Karesh posted to the International Society for Infectious Diseases’ ProMed newsgroup.

“The 1st hunter died around April 25-26, and the last on May 11,” Karesh wrote. The incubation period is about seven to 10 days, within a range of three days to two weeks. “The infected hunters did not admit to eating or touching any ape carcasses. They said they had eaten elephant, and survey teams have found numerous elephant carcasses, illegally killed, in the area. The current local

MEMORIALS

In memory of dear Layla.
—Mickey de Rham

In memory of Tango, my red Keeshond.
—Paul Kearney

In loving memory of Georgi, beloved cat of April Ponemon & Lewis Nierman.
—Amy Ness

In loving memory of Lucky, beloved dog of Tara, Danielle, & Nicholas Morrone.
—Amy Ness

In memory of Purr Box (12/3/87), Prometheus (3/21/81), Friendl (10/30/87), Lizzie (5/8/84), Boy Cat (12/26/85), Miss Penrose (11/18/98), Duke (11/1/98), Purr Box, Jr. (5/1/04) and Blackie (9/9/96).



Kitty, 18, a male African lion who was notorious for roaring at motorcycles, whose rumbling he mistook for territorial challenges, died in his sleep from cancer on May 6 at the NEW Zoo in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

HUMAN OBITUARIES

Prince Rainier Louis Henri Maxence Bertrand III, 81, died on April 6, 2005. Rainier inherited titular rule of Monaco in 1949, a principality of less than one square mile, controlled by his ancestors since 1297, renowned for gambling and as a tax haven for the rich since the mid-19th century. Rainier revitalized the Monaco resorts after 1955 with investment capital from Greek whaling baron Aristotle Onassis—but married animal-loving actress Grace Kelly in 1956, who detested Onassis. To placate Kelly, Rainier banned pigeon shooting, a favorite Onassis pastime, in Monaco. Rainier wrongly anticipated reconciling Kelly and Onassis when in 1961 he persuaded Onassis to join British wildlife artist and trophy hunter Peter Scott, Prince Philip of Britain, and Prince Bernhardt of The Netherlands in founding the World Wildlife Fund. Scott and the princes feared that newly independent former European colonies would abolish sport hunting, as India and Kenya eventually did. They sought to save hunting by funding the wildlife departments of emerging nations, following the example of the National Wildlife Federation, which in the 1930s lobbied successfully for U.S. wildlife management to be funded by taxes on hunting licenses and equipment. Instead of promoting taxes on hunters, however, WWF raised money directly from the public, to “save animals,” seldom if ever mentioning the pro-hunting agenda in appeals. The rift between Kelly and Onassis widened until Onassis sold his Monaco holdings at a tenfold profit and left in 1965. Rainier remained involved with WWF to the end of his life, but the tiny Monaco zoo fell into disrpute after Kelly was killed in a 1982 car crash.



Emily Kent, 6, of North Fort Myers, Florida, on the night of June 5, 2005 saw a turtle in the middle of Old U.S. 41. Her mother Geraldine Kent stopped to rescue the turtle—and Emily Kent leaped out of the car immediately despite her mother’s screams to wait. She was killed by a car driven by Heather Lowe, 19. Friends and family remembered Emily Kent’s love of her dog Alexis, a recently acquired black kitten, and turtles and snakes she found near her home. *[The safe way to rescue animals from roads is to use one’s vehicle as a shield, with four-way flashers on.]*

Eduardo Patuglan, 28, of Quezon City, the Philippines, was fatally stabbed on May 12 while defending his pet monkey from a knife attack by Joel Zamora, 20, the *Philippine Inquirer* reported. “It was not immediately clear what happened to Patugalan’s monkey,” wrote D.J. Yap of the Inquirer News Service.

Allisdair Macleod, DVM, 91, died on April 30, 2005 in Placer County, California. Born and educated in Scotland, Macleod “took part in World War II as a captain in the Royal Veterinary Corps, looking after mules in the jungles of Burma,” recalled Auburn Area Animal Rescue Foundation volunteer Cassie Reeves. Macleod actively assisted the Placer County SPCA and animal control department, Reeves told **ANIMAL PEOPLE**, and helped to start three rescue groups, including AAARF, Friends of Placer County Animal Shelters, and Angels Rescuing Kritters.

Claude Argyle Smith, 92, a USDA veterinarian from 1935 to 1972, died on February 15, 2005 in Hyattsville, Maryland. Smith was inspector of gift animals sent to the U.S. by foreign governments, including a horse named Sardar given to then-First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy in 1962 by the President of Pakistan, Muhammed Ayub Khan, and the pandas Ling-Ling and Hsing-Hsing, donated to the National Zoo in 1972 by the People’s Republic of China.

